JOHN BULL

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For meaning of this number see page iii. of cover.

No. 324472

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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A. B. SULLIVAN

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THE GENERAL ELECTION.

PARLIAMENT TO BE DISSOLVED END OF OCTOBER.

As we have been stating for months past, the Lords will reject the Budget. When we say reject it, we mean that pending an appeal to the country, they will decline to pass it. They will say that, quite apart from the fact that it avowedly seeks to secure through the medium of a fiscal measure objects which the Government has failed to achieve by substantive legislation, it embodies new principles of finance upon which the people have never been consulted—and that they are entitled to ask for a popular mandate before consenting to the Bill.

The Government will then resign, and the King will dissolve Parliament. The only point remaining is whether the Election will take place upon the Register now in force, or upon the new one, which will be ready by November 1st and which is actually used for Municipal purposes. We believe the Government will introduce a Bill of one clause making such new Register the basis of the Election, by providing that it shall come into operation for all purposes upon the first of November—and to this proposal the Lords will assent.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

Mr. Churchill, we observe, has annexed our epigram about the Conservatives "putting up their dukes." Meanwhile, Mr. Lloyd George's small bottle-holder has had to throw up the sponge.

Last November the *Daily Telegraph* issued "Queen Alexandra's Gift Book." It was an attractive volume and the popularity of the royal author assured an enormous circulation. Indeed, it is stated that no less than half a million copies were sold, and we were told that the proceeds would be distributed in charity. Since then, £10,000 has been doled out to the pauper trusts, Salvation and Church Armies, etc., and £1,000 was spent at Shoolbred's on officers' comforts. Surely somebody must have made much more than £11,000 out of the book. As many purchasers were induced to spend their half-crowns by the announcement that the profits would be spent in charity, we feel we are entitled to ask for a further account.

If the Government fared badly in the last stages of the Land debate, it commenced worse on the Licensing clauses. Mr. Asquith had taken charge, but he had not made himself acquainted with the pledges which had been given by or on behalf of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to those whose licenses expired on July 5th, and who renewed them before the Finance Bill became law. These pledges were definite, and after the Solicitor-General had been put up to try and wriggle out of them, the Prime Minister, with his unerring Parliamentary instinct, grasped the situation, and, without any further bones, promised to amend the Government amendment. Score to the Opposition.

Then came Mr. Redmond's proposal to omit Ireland from the new duties and restrictions. The Irish leader, as usual, was effective—by being moderate in language and obviously sincere in purpose. The case he made out was a strong one, but much of it might equally be applied to England. Of course, we all knew that some sort of concession had been arranged "behind the Chair"—as the phrase goes. But both Mr. Redmond and Mr. Asquith played the comedy, and various ameliorations were promised. Score to the Irish party.

During the debate on the Irish amendment, we ventured to warn the Prime Minister that he would soon be called upon by English members for similarly sympathetic consideration. The appeal quickly came. We asked that London licensed premises should be placed upon a different footing from the rest of the country. We pointed out that owing to the special system of valuation prevailing in the Metropolis, and to the high value of land, the assessment of public-houses and hotels is very much greater than in other places; but all to no purpose. We were not an Irish party, and though we numbered about sixty, most of us were party hacks, and, therefore, did not count, in a Parliamentary sense. But we took nearly a hundred members into the lobby. Snub to the London members.

And then there was that terrible muddle about the grocers. A careless draughtsman had taken it upon himself, whilst the Prime Minister was golfing and the Chancellor of the Exchequer was aviating, to put down an amendment giving grocers the right to sell small quantities of wines and spirits, instead of being restricted, as at present, to the bottle trade. And no member of the Government had noticed it! At least, "that's what they said," as the little boy remarked about the discovery of young Moses by Pharaoh's daughter. Hence a hasty retreat, and another big blow to the Government.

Then came the explicit admission by the Prime Minister that Part II. of the Budget is deliberately intended to secure one of the main objects of the dead Licensing Bill. But there he got into a nasty tangle. It was our disagreeable duty to have to point out that had the Licensing Bill passed, no contribution, or sacrifice, from the Trade would have been enacted for at least fourteen years, and as it was conceded that in that event the present taxes would not have been proposed, it is obvious, first, that some other source of revenue would have had to be found, and, secondly, that for a deferred obligation the Government is now substituting an immediate one upon the shoulders of the licensed victualler.

On the land question, the views of Mr. R. F. Ratcliff, M.P., the well-known brewer, are akin to our own. He has been telling the local Trades Council that when he looks round Burton and realises the land monopoly of Lord Anglesey, who is the ground landlord, he cannot bring himself to vote against the land clauses of the Finance Bill. We anticipate that this will worry Mr. Balfour almost as much as our own attitude on the licensing clauses has worried the Prime Minister. But, indeed, we look at the landlord monopoly over a wider field than Burton, and what we see convinces us that the big landlords, peers or other, ought to own up, pay up—and shut up.

True to his medical propaganda, Sir Victor Horsley, the famous Surgeon-President of the International Society of Medical Abstainers, made an epistolary appeal to the 4,000 delegates of the Medical Congress at Budapest to decline the acceptance of the two bottles of Tokai presented to each of them. We have not heard the result of the appeal, but we hasten to say that we shall be delighted to relieve any doubting delegate of his burden. Never tasted Tokai? Then you have never lived.

Is what we hear from South Shields correct? Information reaches us that the public land which was let for £100 a year to the Skating Rink Company could have been let for £200: that by a coincidence the directors of the company are the Mayor and other councillors of the town, and that the company is making "enormous profits"! We pause for a reply.

A prospective member of the J.B. League remonstrates with us for commending the Southport magistrates for letting off an all but destitute woman when charged with stealing some spoons from a restaurant. "Stealing, false witness, and murder are offences, by whomsoever done," says this gentleman with the big stick, "and were so long before we had 670 beauties at Westminster manufacturing crimes out of innocent actions and calling it social reform." True, good sir. But all offences are to be judged in the light of the circumstances which influenced their committal. It is an offence for a starving man to steal a loaf in the stress of his hunger. It is also an offence for a well-fed one to steal a watch for the satisfaction of his cupidity. But how different do they stand for punishment!

Some time ago we urged Boards of Guardians to take advantage of the demand in certain quarters for beautiful, buxom, bouncing babies by disposing of their surplus lots to approved applicants. Our suggestion was prompted by the action of a rev. gentleman of the Lambeth Board of Guardians, who, as chairman of its Baby Disposal Committee, had succeeded in giving babies away to great advantage. We now notice that the Hendon Guardians offer for early delivery "two healthy and pretty baby girls, aged twelve and six months respectively (foundlings)." Strictest references are, of course, required, and all further particulars may be obtained on application from the Clerk, who, we assume, will issue a limited number of tickets for the inspection of the exhibits. For those who would like a beautiful baby, ready made for company in the kitchen or ornament in the drawing-room, the present opportunity should not be missed, the goods being warranted sound, wholesome, and of British manufacture throughout.

Perhaps some member of the Stage Plays Committee will try to get from the Censor how such plays as "Arsène Lupin," at the Duke of York's Theatre, come to be licensed. We understand that the object of the censorship is to preserve the public morals. From end to end this play is nothing but a laudation of burglary, and we doubt not that after seeing it, many of the "gods" will come to regard housebreaking as a noble and heroic art, which they will commence to practise at the earliest opportunity. We are really very much concerned.

The *Frankfürter-Zeitung* protests against the caricaturists of Germany for making too free with King Edward in the comic papers. But so long as the bounds of actual decency are not overstepped, our contemporary may accept the assurance that neither the King nor his subjects will have the slightest objection to the comicalities of the German caricaturists. In these days monarchs move about in the international workshops too freely to expect immunity from caricature. The British papers have always made the most of the Kaiser. He typifies the German Empire, in fact, as King Edward typifies the British Empire. That said, all's said.

A Birmingham reader says "Lord Ardilaun makes a charge of 1s. to all tourists visiting the Gap of Dunloe, Killarney. A small portion of his lordship's estate has to be crossed to reach the Gap. Lord Ardilaun has a charge of 6d. entrance fee to Muckross Abbey. Lord Kenmare makes a charge of 6d. to visitors to a portion of his estate." He desires to know the names of the charities, if any, which receive the financial advantages of their lordships' enterprise and industry as proprietors of public shows. We have no information. Perhaps the money goes to the gardeners.

There are new points of view to most things. A certified nurse of the insane tells us that his long experience teaches him that at least 25 per cent. of the inmates of our public asylums are able-bodied men of sound mind, who are so contented with the advantages to be obtained by remaining in that they never want to come out. It is possible. On the other hand, it is not to be doubted that thousands of lunatics are so satisfied with the advantages of being out that they never want to go in.

Thoughtless people will keep on saying that the aeroplane will never be of practical use, whereas only the other day M. Blériot took up a friend in his machine and flew with him to Witry-les-Rheims, so that he might not miss his train.

The *Chorley Wood Parish Magazine* is priced at one penny, and is cheap at the money. Edited by the vicar, the Rev. Cecil Hughes, the current issue describes a garden fête and sale of work which has "proved a grand success." "Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Smith," says the good vicar, "deserve every praise for lending their grounds, and Mrs. Kerr our gratitude for being kind enough to open the bazaar, and little Miss N. Gilbert Smith presented her with a beautiful bouquet. The Great Central Band played most energetically. The competitions afforded much amusement, the pet animal race and the decorated bicycles." Then, apropos the balance-sheet, the reverend gentleman proceeds to say that "of the balance the harmonium has been paid for, £25 3s. 3d., thereby saving over £3, and the balance of the debt, £27 15s. 4d., has been settled. The remainder is to be spent in two more gas radiators, improving the entrance, and printing the balance-sheet." Our reverend friend appears to have rather curious notions of the functions of the English language.

We notice that Mr. F. H. Billows, of Westcliff-on-Sea, has again been bobbing up, this time at the Rural-Decanal Conference at Southend, to utter his pious lamentations on the subject of Sunday trading in that beautiful health resort. It is now two or three years since, if we correctly remember, he addressed a meeting advocating the suppression of all Sunday trading in Southend, though what the borough would do without its Sunday boatmen, its Sunday trams, and its Sunday mussels, whelks and cockles, one hesitates to prophesy. Probably it would be soon advertised for auction in vacant lots. He now warns Southend that "the decay of Empires of the past has always been preceded by some such signs as we see to-day." That is to say, the more cockles it sells to a famished multitude on Sundays the swifter will Southend pass to doom. Happily, Mr. Billows does not obtain his livelihood by dispensing cockles. He is Superintendent of the Indo-European Telegraph Co., Old Broad Street, City, a commercial concern which works its staff day and night, Sundays included. May we ask what steps he is taking, by prayer or otherwise, to influence his directors to abolish Sunday trading in his own company, and thus postpone the downfall of our Empire?

Doubtless it is necessary for the London County Council, in the interests of Peckham, to suppress the boisterous pleasantries of many of the young men and maidens who promenade round the bandstand on the Rye. But it appears to us that Mr. Hopkins, the Lambeth magistrate, is making his lessons unjustifiably stiff. A Sunday or two ago a sixteen-year-old lad was listening to the band with a friend when a playful maiden snatched a buttonhole from his coat. He tried to knock her arm away, and, being detected in this ungallant behaviour, he and his friend were arrested, charged the next day with insulting behaviour, and fined £5 or a month. Boys will be boys; and in these days girls also. Surely five shillings and a warning would have met the case?

A good deal is being made out of the Czar's invitation to Lieutenant-General Sir Ian Hamilton to visit the Russian manœuvres this year. Possibly Nicholas has a warm corner in his heart for one who, like himself, has upset the Japanese. Soon after Sir Ian returned from the Manchurian War, he wrote a volume, and called it "A Staff Officer's Scrap Book," in which he showed that he was not going to be led into that fulsome flattery of the Jap which was then so fashionable. The Japanese took umbrage at some of his remarks, and they had to be cut out of later editions. Since then he has been promoted, and, as a member of the Army Council, can probably be trusted to do as the Army Council do—forget that such common things as personal initiative and liberty exist in this world.

All through their life the present Government have had two troublesome individuals to deal with in the Duke of Connaught and Lord Kitchener. When the one was packed off to exile in Malta, and the other to semi-oblivion in India, there was much rejoicing in Whitehall. But though Kitchener remained quiet and unobtrusive, save for a round with a truculent Minister, which led to the downfall of a Viceroy, the Duke had a daughter—young, handsome, and high-spirited—who flatly refused to be banished from Society. The Princess Patricia was more often in London and Paris than in the Mediterranean. This led the Duke to take many trips home, and the scheme of Mr. Haldane for keeping him away was more or less frustrated. Now, matters have come to a climax, and His Royal Highness must be found another job. He is too young, too energetic, and too popular a soldier to be left idling about, and, besides, he has a nasty knack of speaking his mind. Some time ago there was talk of reviving the Commander-in-Chief-ship of the British Army, in the person of the Duke, but the Army Council resist this, as it would mean an end of their autocratic sway. The latest rumour is that His Royal Highness may succeed the Earl of Aberdeen as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and it need scarcely be said that if such an appointment is possible and can be made, it will be immensely popular with all parties. And if the correspondence between the Duke and the Army Council is ever published, as some say it may be, we shall have some spicy reading.

The "unco' guid" are beginning to ask themselves how they ought to regard the Boy Scout movement. As usual, they have been worrying about children entering public-houses and smoking fags, while under their noses there has fertilised what has in it the germs of a gigantic evil. It has to be remembered that the "Scout" propaganda is more or less pagan. The youngsters are taught to take themselves back to the primitive days of man in a savage state, their literature is of the "penny dreadful" order, and their titles are purloined from Red Indian lore. This fascinates them, and constitutes a serious rival to the teaching of the Sunday-school. We know of a case where a boy, just over eight years of age, is giving no end of trouble through being smitten with the craze. He does not belong to the official "Scouts," but he and some companions have formed a corps of their own. He has stolen money from his mother's purse; he has robbed his grandfather's orchard, and all in order that he may be a hero in the eyes of his brother "Scouts." There is a very grave danger, as even the inventor of the game must admit, and the time has arrived when the movement should be looked upon as something more than the fad of a man with a bee in his bonnet.

As everybody ought to know, the Bible enjoins rest on the seventh day, in other words, on Saturday. But many Sabbatarians argue that learned Churchmen have agreed to regard Sunday as, for all practical purposes, the seventh day. Many authorities may, however, be cited to the contrary. Mr. Gladstone said that the change from the seventh to the first day was warranted by "no direct precept of Scripture." Canon Eyton said, "There is no word, no hint, in the New Testament about abstaining from work on Sunday." Canon Knox-Little said, "It is certain that our Lord, when on earth, *did* observe Saturday, and did *not* observe Sunday." Dr. Dale said, "There is not a single sentence in the New Testament to suggest that we incur any penalty by violating the supposed sanctity of Sunday." These people, and many others, were observers of Sunday, and, if they could have found any Scriptural authority for their heretical practice, they would certainly have cited it. We do not often deal with doctrines or dogma, but the above-mentioned facts may afford useful reminders for Kill-joys, who seem to imagine that man was made for Sunday.

We read, for instance, in a Scottish gazette, loud lamentations over the iniquity of Sunday golf at a place called Longside. It is reported that "a sensation was created" there

> by the announcement that a number of golfers were observed playing over the Fairhfield course on Sunday. The players evidently did not belong to the district, for they were quite unknown to the few people who happened to notice them, and, as they arrived in a motor-car, and after playing their round went off by the same conveyance, the tracing of the Sabbath-breakers will be a matter of some difficulty.

If the "Sabbath-breakers" had been house-breakers, it would have been difficult to express disapproval of their crime with much more emphasis. Let us, therefore, in all sincerity and friendliness, request the good people of Longside to provide us with a single word or precept in Holy Writ logically capable of being construed into reprobation of Sunday golf.

A correspondent makes some amusing suggestions in view of extravagant campaigns against cruelty to animals. She proposes that, instead of catching mice or keeping a cat, humanitarians should provide toasted cheese and bacon rinds for "the poor little things." She is also worried about fleas, because they "don't drown very easily." She patrols her garden "to see the spiders don't entice poor, innocent flies into their webs," and she is "thinking of building a home for blackbeetles." It is quite right to be logical in these matters.

A halfpenny paper triumphantly announces the discovery that Rheims should be pronounced Rance. This would be almost correct if we happened to be Frenchmen. But Rheims is one of those foreign places whose names have been Anglicised. It would, therefore, be an affectation not to pronounce the word as though it rhymed with dreams. In the same way it would be silly and pedantic to drop the s in Calais or Paris. If we went on that tack, we should have to talk of Wien, Venezia, Beograd, München, even Magyarország.

There can be no doubt of the wisdom of the Bishop of Birmingham's strategic movement to the rear in the matter of his threatened prosecution of Canon Henson for defying the inhibition to preach in an institute connected with a Nonconformist place of worship. Canon Henson has been in America since Dr. Gore threatened proceedings; many months have passed, and now that the Canon has returned it has occurred to the Bishop that after such a lapse of time it is no longer his duty to move in the matter. It is difficult to see that it ever was.

Another example of clerical intolerance, this time from Wales. Three years ago Mr. Evans, landlord of the Navigation Hotel in Abercynon, acted as vice-president of sports in connection with the Sunday-school annual festival, when, by his efforts, £59 was cleared. One of the curates of Abercynon appealed for the assistance of Mr. Evans this year, and it was willingly offered. But the vicar, the Rev. Ellis Jones, no sooner heard of it than he repudiated his curate and refused to accept the publican as a member of the committee. It does not surprise us in the least that the vicar's action has been widely resented. Many of the Abercynon publicans have been among the staunchest supporters of the various Church movements in the town. This clerical slap in the face will probably induce them to button up their pockets.

All our tenderest illusions vanish one by one. The *Jewish World* has now discovered that Methusaleh lived for only 969 months, or 78½ years. In other words, he was a comparatively young man.

It is a pity the vivisectionists and anti-vivisectionists cannot raise their controversies above the level of the nursery. The correspondence between Sir Henry Burdett and the secretary of the Anti-vivisection Hospital at Battersea is in point. The secretary put Sir Henry Burdett to the proof of his recent statement that "the medical profession knew perfectly well they (the Battersea Hospital) must employ remedies in the treatment of disease which would not have been available but for discoveries resulting from vivisection." That was a plain question, but Sir Henry jumps away from it like a cat who has got on hot bricks. He asks two questions instead of answering. (1) "Is the aseptic system," he says, "adopted by the medical staff of the hospital, and are antiseptics used in surgical cases treated there?" (2) "Are cases of enteric fever and diphtheria admitted for treatment to your hospital, and do you admit diseases caused by specific micro-organisms?" As Sir Henry jumps away from the question asked by the secretary, so does the secretary jump away from the questions asked by Sir Henry, and the two epistolarians, through half-a-dozen more letters, become utterly vacuous. This sort of controversy is below the standard of a boy's debating society.

May we point out to some of the people who oppose the Budget that they can oppose it without making their opposition ridiculous? Because of the motor-car imposts, members of the Committee of the Notts Automobile Club have objected to lend cars for the country annual excursion of Nottingham children. Add to this that Lord Egerton of Tatton, who recently prohibited the tenants upon his estate from providing teas to cyclists and pedestrians, finds himself unable, in consequence of the land tax clauses, to do himself the pleasure of renewing his three-guinea subscription to some deaf and dumb schools. What a mockery!

Hardly a post reaches us which does not bring evidence of the absurdity of the attempt to forward the cause of "Temperance" by law. On the top of the admission of a Yankee tub-thumper that one of the American Trusts recently insisted upon every one of its 15,000 men signing the pledge, under pain of dismissal, comes a letter calling our attention to a book just published, entitled "Ramblings of an Old Mummer." Its author is Mr. Russell Cranfield, a veteran actor, well-known and highly respected in this country (of which he is a native) and the Colonies as well as in the United States, where he now lives. He has what they term a "summer home" or country cottage in Maine, the State where the crack Prohibitionists are reared. He has observed the working of compulsory "abstinence," and he says: "I do not consider prohibition a success. It seems to me to foster hypocrisy and the sale of bad liquor." Which is pretty much the tendency of the attacks on the "trade" over here.

Apropos the Public-House Clause of the Children Bill, into the working of which Mr. Gladstone is supposed to be making enquiries, one of our readers gives a striking instance of its operation. He is a licensed victualler, and his house is next door to a hospital. The other day, he says, a poor woman, who had been waiting in the hospital for hours, whilst her son was slowly passing away, came into the bar, with a baby in her arms, and begged to be served with a little spirit. She was distressed and exhausted—but she had to be hurriedly bundled out of the place! "Many a time," says our correspondent, "have I had to refuse to supply refreshment to women with children, who have come up to the hospital from all parts of the country, and have to wait about for hours at a stretch." Verily, we are a great people!

If, as is reported, it be true that it will be quite impossible for anyone to be drowned in the new Manchester district baths, or, in fact, to get into any sort of difficulty whilst using them, we submit that all other authorities controlling municipal baths should at once give themselves a rate-paid holiday to inspect these signs and wonders. We are curious about it. Does one wear a sort of electrical bell installation, which rings a preliminary alarm after the first mouthful or immediately the big toe makes its initial attempt to get cramped? Or does one's bump on the floor of the bath on going down for the third time do the trick? The boast of the Manchester ædiles seems to make those questions necessary.

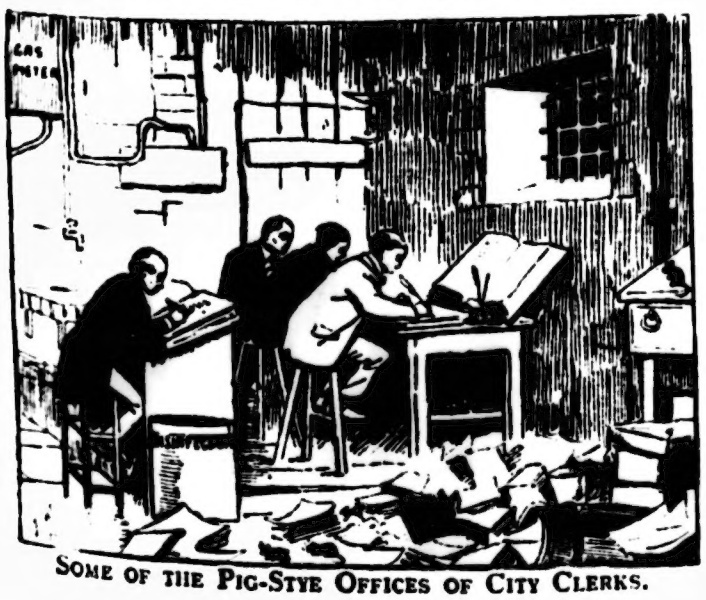
Those who read our Open Letter to Mr. Lewis, the stipendiary of Cardiff, will be glad to hear that the tramway conductor whom he sentenced to six weeks' hard labour for an alleged, but not very satisfactorily proved offence of defrauding the Corporation of the price of a penny tram-ticket, has been released. The fact that the conductor, on meeting his friends outside the gaol, indulged in several pious expressions of joy and gratitude apparently induces one or two of our readers to think we shall now support their belief that the man is a humbug and well deserved his sentence. "It is clear," says one, "that he is too good for earth and ought to be in heaven." But it is not to be forgotten that the released conductor is a Plymouth Brother and a Welshman, and that when a human combination of this kind gets religion, he gets it strong. In any case, Jones's piety or impiety is not in point. What concerns the public is that if he was guilty the sentence was brutal, and if he was not it was atrocious.

An Assistant Inspector of Weights and Measures is required by the West Sussex County Council. The salary offered is £1 a week. As an inspector has to pass a Board of Trade examination in arithmetic, mensuration, physics, advanced mechanics, practical verification, Acts and Regulations, the salary strikes us as painfully unexorbitant. Possibly one of the junior clerks of the County Council has got mixed up a bit in sending out the advertisement. We suggest that what the Council really wants is not an Inspector of Weights and Measures at all, but an Inspector of Road Sweepings.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

He was a dying K.C., and as his end drew near, he soliloquised: "I'm afraid in the course of my career I've lost many cases I ought to have won," and then, after a pause: "On the other hand, I've won many I ought to have lost—*so I suppose in the end justice has been done.*"

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE HAS ITS EYE ON—



SOME OF THE PIG-STYE OFFICES OF CITY CLERKS.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

NOTICE.—No more biscuits for births, deaths, or marriages, which creep into the wrong column. Much too gruesome to be funny!

WARNING.—Biscuits are uncompromisingly denied to papers alluding to "old women of both sexes." There are so many of them.

For stating, as reported in the "Daily Mail," that "some thousands of girls have registered themselves as BOY *scouts."*

LIEUT.-GEN. BADEN-POWELL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For reporting that a woman "pleaded guilty to a charge of having neglected her eight children by failing to give them sufficient food AND KEEP THEM IN A FILTHY CONDITION."

THE EDINBURGH EVENING DISPATCH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, as reported in the "Morning Post," that: "In the case of Section B the Infantry men enlisted for THREE *years are required to train in the fifth, seventh, ninth, and eleventh year of their service, and those enlisted for more than three years in their tenth year of service."*

MR. HALDANE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing in the "Crewe and Nantwich Observer": "Dairy Shorthorn BULL, *under two years old, giving or having given not less than 900 gallons of milk per annum."*

MR. SAMUEL SANDAY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "Morgan had his ARM *amputated off at the knee."*

THE WESTERN MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that, at Calcutta, "all the old SPORTS *associated with ancient times, such as the Black Hole, have been built over."*

THE INDIAN A.B.C. RAILWAY GUIDE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "there was one very LARGE *clap of thunder followed by a most vivid flash of lightning."*

THE SUSSEX EVENING TIMES
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For saying, as reported by the "Westminster Gazette," that the Suffragettes were in Downing Street "in pursuance of an ILLEGAL RIGHT,"

T. M. HEALY, K.C., M.P.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "the Canadian Government has no power to send troops OUT OF THE COUNTRY *except for the* LOCAL DEFENCE *of Canada."*

THE MORNING LEADER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising, among the attractions of a shop, "large population; not one in district,"

AN ADVERTISER IN
THE STONE WEEKLY NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "the chairman presented a draft report recommending the TOTAL ABOLITION OF PAYMENT OF DEBT,"

LLOYD'S WEEKLY NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "Barnes THRICE *hit the wicket with* TWO *following balls,"*

THE DAILY EXPRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing that "Mr. J. Jones, 34, Parkfield Road, Liverpool, FELT *£28,075."*

THE LIVERPOOL ECHO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For writing "You were quite delirious when you woke to CONSCIOUSNESS,"

JOSEPH HOCKING
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

GENTLEMEN.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

Considerable uncertainty seems to prevail about the definition of a gentleman. The correspondents of a newspaper called John Bull, I understand, make frequent appeals to the Editor to decide bets for them on the subject. Now there are two utterly contradictory attitudes assumed in the matter. In the first place, we have the philological or dictionary position: a gentleman is "a man of ancestry," a person entitled to bear arms or, at least, to use a coat of arms, a member of a gens or family. All other derivations, says Johnson, are whimsical.

Born, Not Made.

As Dryden put the case, "a long descended race makes gentlemen." And a character in one of Bacon's plays goes straight to the point:

"I freely told you all the wealth I had
Ran in my veins; I was a gentleman."

That is to say, gentility is inherited, like nobility. It is even more distinguished sometimes, for a title may be acquired by your brewer or your banker, whereas all the wealth of Johannesburg or Golconda, all the perfumes of Arabia and Kazanlik, all the intrigues of Westminster and Birmingham are impotent to call a gentleman into being. Like the poet, he is born, not made.

The Ignorant Alternative.

Now, despite derivations and dictionaries, thoughtless persons have tried to transform this mark of breeding into an empty compliment. "I knew he was a gentleman," said the waiter to the cook, "because he wore dress-clothes." Just as many of us seek to propitiate a voter or a creditor by addressing him as Esquire on an envelope, so do others, indiscriminately and thoughtlessly, exalt the vulgar by ascribing gentility, where ancestry is absent. Of course, you may quibble about the meaning of ancestry. Dame Juliana Berners, for instance, writing about coat-armour in the year 1486, stated that "Cain became a churl from the curse of God, and Seth a gentleman through his father's and mother's blessing." This is at variance with the more democratic distych:

"When Adam delved and Eve span,
Where was then the gentleman?"

And both are at variance with common sense, for neither paternal approbation nor manual labour affects breeding. If you must flatter people, call them rich, kind, beautiful, portly, anything you like so long as it is plausible, but do not call them gentlemen any more than baronets or aviators, when they are nothing of the kind.

Nature's Gentlemen.

Once admit that gentility is a question of character or manners, and you will soon be hopelessly at sea. The fool who wrote that kind hearts are more than coronets has much to answer for, and a similar fallacy was evidently at the back of his head. The contradictory phrase "nature's gentlemen" is also responsible for many misunderstandings. You find it applied to polite rustics or chivalrous counter-jumpers or other graceful mock turtles. This only proves that we need a new word to convey the particular compliment intended; there is no excuse for encroaching upon a title which already possesses a definite and utterly different meaning of its own.

A Question of Degree.

On the other hand, I admit that colloquial usage palliates a philological error to a certain extent. We address the grocer and the candlestick maker as "gentlemen of the jury," we invite the "ladies and gentlemen" of a slum or a village to drink the health of the Sovereign. Moreover, we convey a distinct insult when we tell a boor that he is "no gentleman." He may know very well that he cannot claim the title, but he will resent the reminder, whereas he would remain utterly unruffled if informed that he was not a peer of the realm. That is perhaps a poor antithesis, for no self-respecting person would now wish to be mistaken for a member of the House of Lords.

Colloquial Confusion.

Let us, however, consider the colloquial attributes of a gentleman. Through a confusion of meanings, he is expected to be soft, bland, mild, tame, meek. At the same time, he must hold his own with courage, rescue maidens in distress, tilt obstinately at windmills. He may never lose his temper, but he is entitled to employ certain oaths. The big D, for instance, pertains to his vocabulary, but sanguinary adjectives are taboo. He may steal common lands, or borrow money which he never intends to repay, but on no account shall he cheat at cards. He should dress richly, but not extravagantly, for it is deemed bad form to be conspicuous. Indeed, as we read in the "Tatler" "you see among men, who are honoured with the common appellation of gentleman, so many contradictions to that character, that it is the utmost ill-fortune to bear it." The Devil, it will be remembered, is usually represented as being a thorough gentleman, though this may refer to his distinguishing quality as a fallen angel.

Pinchbeck Pretence.

Perhaps the two most offensive words I know are gentlemanly and gentlemanlike. They imply an affectation of gentility, a pinchbeck pretence. Yet in Dr. Johnson's time they were defined as "becoming a man of birth." Spenser wrote about "the gentlemanly trade of stealing," and Bacon said Pyramus was "a most lovely gentleman-like man." Nowadays, however, if we admit that a valet, or an actor, or a sidesman is gentlemanly, we mean that, though obviously not a gentleman in any sense of the word, he is yet like one in a superficial way. The word genteel used also to suggest elegance, then came to convey contemptuous commendation, but is now obsolete and, if used at all, savours somewhat of derision.

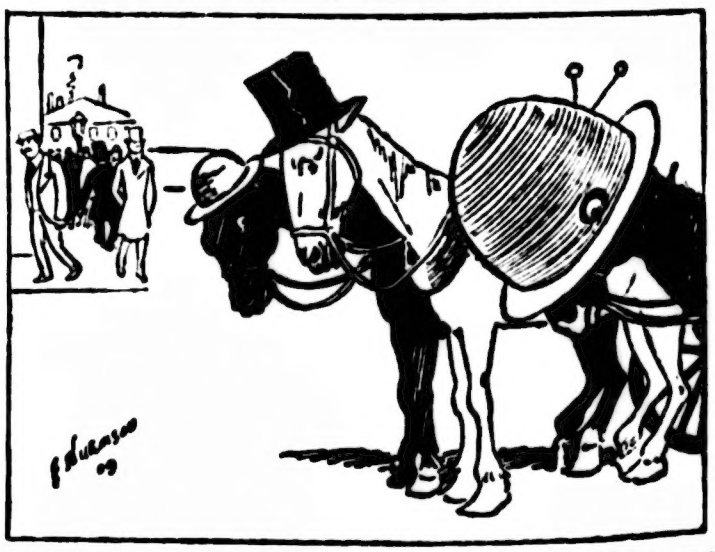
Ladies.

It is interesting to note that, while the word gentleman is often used in contempt (a servant, for instance, being known as a gentleman's gentleman), the word lady nearly always implies esteem, the only exception perhaps being a "perfect lady," who is sometimes no better than she should be. The fact is that lady is the feminine of lord, and has only superseded gentlewoman by courtesy. According to Verstegan, Mrs. Baillie-Saunders and other philologers, she was originally the loaf-giver, because the mistress of the family used to distribute the bread to the domestics and guests, but Tooke says that the word means raised or exalted, "her birth being out of the question, as the wife follows the condition of the husband." A woman may therefore become a lady by process of marriage, whereas you may no more make a gentleman out of a churl than a silk purse out of a sow's ear. Even education does not constitute a gentleman, as certain Anabaptists do falsely boast. Nor can there be "gentlemen by Act of Parliament," as solicitors pretend. Parliament can do almost anything. It can send us to bed early, and dock our drink, and curtail our amusements, but it is not, like a certain monarch, super grammaticam. It cannot even provide a pedigree for the first gentleman in Birmingham.

BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

September 10*th*. H. H. Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, Kumar Shri Ranjitsinhji.
England hath need of thee.—*Wordsworth*.



There is a Plea for More Hats for Horses. Could not the old "Tiles" of City Men be Used to Advantage and the Bee Hive Hat of the Ladies?

GERMAN SHIPBUILDING DEVELOPMENT.

PROGRESS UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

By T. Good.

This year, for the first time on record, a foreign Power is spending more money on new fighting ships and their equipment than we are. That Power is Germany, and it may not be uninteresting to render a brief account of that country's progress and resources in the matter of shipbuilding. First, let it be noted that the foundation of modern shipbuilding is steel, that the foundation of steel is iron, and that Germany, after having a very late and bad start in the race, has already overtaken and outdistanced this country in the production of iron and steel. Let us see to it that we are not also beaten in the shipbuilding race.

The annals of industrialism contain few more striking chapters than the history of German shipbuilding. From obscurity and insignificance, and out of a maze of natural and economic difficulties, the German shipbuilder has risen within a single generation to a position second only to that held by his powerful British rival, and is now forging ahead rapidly while the Britisher is merely marking time. And yet, a progressive shipbuilding industry is more essential to this country than to Germany. Certainly, we have not yet lost the leading position, but unless the Government gives our builders and furnishers of war vessels that volume and regularity of work which our commercial and imperial needs warrant, and the exigencies of international politics render prudent, if not imperative, the day will soon come when British naval supremacy, alike in ships and the capacity to build ships, will pass away.

Twenty years ago Germany was a country of little importance, either in naval power or constructive capacity. But last year Germany launched 97,000 tons of war vessels for her own navy, while we only put 49,000 tons into the water on home account. As recently as 1885 less than 25,000 tons of iron and steel shipping, naval and mercantile, were launched in Germany in the twelve months. Since 1905 the average output has exceeded 300,000 tons a year. And Germany builds many vessels for other countries—she has speedily changed from a customer to a competitor in respect of ships, just as in iron and steel; and her rapid progress becomes all the more remarkable when it is borne in mind that her iron producers, steel makers and shipbuilders have had to overcome a combination of natural obstacles quite unknown in this country. Here Nature has placed first-class coal, good iron ore, and excellent harbours practically side by side; but in Germany the coalfields are far removed from the iron deposits, and both coal and iron are at long distances from seaboard, while of first-class natural harbours that country is well-nigh destitute. Not only has Germany to assemble her raw materials from widely separated districts, but she has had to make, and now has to maintain, her harbours by costly dredging. It is important to remember these points—to note that the German shipbuilding industry started on its career heavily handicapped by costly raw materials, by inadequate launching and harbour accommodation, and by lack of inherent artizanship; and that its rapid progress is a monument to the smart adaptability of German craftsmanship, the diligence of German enterprise, and the foresight and patriotism of German statesmanship.

It was not until after the enactment of the Ship Subvention Law, which provided for the payment of subsidies to German vessels on condition that they were built in German yards, in 1885, that the German shipbuilding industry assumed any considerable proportions. Prior to that, practically the whole of Germany's ships were built in this country. During the last six years before the Subsidy Bill was carried, one German firm had £2,000,000 worth of ships built on the Clyde alone. But since 1885 nothing that could be done by practical education, by secret inquiries in foreign countries, by co-operative bounties, by Government subsidies, by cheap transit on State railways and canals, by widening and deepening channels and harbours, to assist the German shipbuilder, has been left undone. What Germany could do in the matter of naval armament making, as well as ordinary steel making and shipbuilding seven years ago, was simply demonstrated at the Dusseldorf Exposition, but we were too engrossed in the Boer War and Coronation affairs to note the abilities of our contemporaries. At that exhibition there was a marvellous array of ship materials, all made in Germany. Twenty years ago Germany, even when she built ships, was obliged to import about three-fourths of the materials from abroad, chiefly from Britain and Belgium; ten years ago she imported one-third of the materials she used; last year she imported less than 3 per cent., and is now actually exporting far more than she used to.

Even after the passing of the Subsidies Act, it was not all plain sailing with the German shipbuilder. When the now famous Vulcan Company, of Stettin, built the first three ships ordered by the North German Lloyd in Germany, after the enactment of the Subvention Law, it lost 2,000,000 marks on the contract. These were vessels of only about 4,000 tons each, but they gave fair satisfaction, and the builders, despite the big loss on them, undertook the construction of two 6,000 ton vessels. But these boats were a failure. The distribution of their engines, boilers and bunkers was so faulty that the vessels floated down by the head when ready for sea, and too far down by the stern at the end of their voyage. These failures, followed almost immediately by the great success of the British-built *Majestic* and *Teutonic*, came very near to strangling German shipbuilding—at all events, so far as ocean passenger vessels were concerned. The first large vessel built by the well-known Schichau Company, of Elbing and Danzig, was also a failure. But our budding rivals stuck to their guns, managed to turn out some very creditable ships, and, with the *Fuerst Bismark* they established a trans-Atlantic record with a speed of 19½ knots. Then, 1897, they built the famous *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*, 14,350 tons, which attained a speed of 22.50 knots, and it was not until ten years later that British builders regained the ocean "blue ribbon" with the *Mauretania* and *Lusitania*. Among other vessels of recent date which testify to German efficiency may be mentioned:—

1900	... *Deutschland*	... ...	16,500 tons
1901	... *Kronprinz Wilhelm*	...	15,000 ,,
1903	... *Kaiser Wilhelm II.*	...	20,000 ,,
1906	... *Kronprinzessin Cicilie*	...	20,000 ,,
1906	... *Kaiserin Augusta Victoria*		25,000 ,,
1908	... *George Washington*	...	25,500 ,,

The war vessels launched in Germany last year, in addition to seven torpedo boats, two submersibles, and other small craft, were:—

Westfalen	...	19,000 tons	...	25,000 I.H.P.
Nassau ...	...	18,000 ,,	...	25,000 ,,
Posen ...	...	18,000 ,,	...	20,000 ,,
Rheinland	...	17,950 ,,	...	20,000 ,,
Blucher	...	15,000 ,,	...	35,000 ,,

Needless to say, most of the German shipyards are splendidly equipped, and several of them are being largely and rapidly extended—extended with almost feverish haste for new capital is being literally lavished upon the works. Of the additional 940,000,000 marks of capital invested in German industrial enterprises these last two years, the greater part has gone into steel, shipbuilding, engineering, and armament concerns.

One important factor in the promotion of German shipbuilding and armament making is the continuity of naval policy in that country. While our Government pursues a mere hand-to-mouth policy of new construction, affording our builders but scant encouragement to maintain a productive capacity commensurate with our national needs, Germany has a continuous, progressive, and long-range policy, enabling her builders of war vessels and equipment to measure, with almost mathematical exactitude, the amount and character of work that will be available several years ahead.

"THE ENGLISH CHURCH PAGEANT."

We have received many letters, from which we select the following:—

There are few people, even among the respectable High Churchmen in the London diocese, who are not pleased with your Church Pageant Revelations. A copy of your paper sent by some friend or society to our leading clergy, *e.g.*, the Deans of Westminster, Canterbury, Norwich and Manchester, Canon Henson, Mr. Webb-Peploe, and others, would soon bring about a protest that would effect a revolution in the arrangements for next year.

And this from another correspondent:—

Bravo! JOHN BULL. But proceed further with your investigations, and I shall be surprised if Mr. W. Hugh Spottiswoode and his firm, Eyre and Spottiswoode, could not throw much light on the "mess" you have disclosed.

Mr. Arthur Croxton, the "Publicity Director," was Mr. Hugh Spottiswoode's private secretary, and was one of the "friends" who recently presented Mr. Hugh Spottiswoode with his portrait in oils for services rendered.

Mrs. Arthur Croxton (wife of the above) was Mistress of the Robes and Costumes.

Whilst Mr. John Ocleshaw, the Hon. Auditor, and Finance Committee of one, is Mr. Hugh Spottiswoode's Accountant!!

We have received the following from a Hammersmith tradesman:—

This is just a word of thanks for your exposure of the English Church Pageant. I sent in 30s. worth of goods, and have had no reply to my applications for payment. I was assured they had plenty of funds in hand when the order was given.

JUSTICE.

A FEW SECONDS AT THE WAKES.

By GEORGE EDGAR.

Tommy Tufton possessed two shillings and the right to stop out until ten o'clock. A fond parent who had provided him with an open sesame to the feast ground had placed no restrictions on his conduct. All she asked him to do was to avoid getting killed on the swings and to beware of the danger of eating ice-cream. When Tommy reached the feast ground, which was a blaze of light and a blare of noise, his face wore the rapt expression of an early Christian martyr suddenly reaching heaven.

After eating four halfpenny ices to prove the weakness of his mother's knowledge of their effect on the digestive organs, he went in search of adventure.

The cokernut shy interested him greatly.

"Eervah!—the ole firm—a milky one every time you knock it over. Hi! Hi!" This crisp phraseology was thrown off by a man whose lungs were evidently of leather.

Tommy took a ball, ignoring Leatherlungs' outstretched hand. He made an excellent throw and the cokernut bit the sawdust.

"Blimey!" ejaculated Leatherlungs, addressing the sky. "See 'ere, you little blither; think I 'm goin' ter run this sangulnary stall for every little pup to come an' 'ave free shies—not 'arf."

Tommy's look was one of pained wonder.

"Gimme my cokernut," he asked, mildly.

"Give yer—your what?" growled Leatherlungs.

"My nut—the one I knocked down. You saw me knock it down, didn't you, mister?"—Tommy appealed to a smiling spectator who possessed a truculent beard.

Leatherlungs looked almost too pained for expression.

"Look 'ere, mi lad, if you don't 'op it lively, you won't want cokernuts; you'll want a coffin. Take that face of yours out of the way, ole son, before my hand slips across it and damages its beauty. 'Op it, lively, Claude William—dye 'ear?"

Tommy looked on the shy-proprietor with contempt. Then with tearful wonder his eyes sought those of the man who wore the truculent whisker. He found them entirely sympathetic.

"How would you like to knock a cokernut over and not get it?" he asked, earnestly.

"Did you?" asked the man with the truculent whisker.

Tommy nodded his head decisively.

"So help me, I did," he said with the conviction of an expert witness, lying, on oath, for a wealthy corporation.

The man with the truculent whisker fixed the man with the leather lungs.

"If I paid a penny for a shy to any deity condemned son of a horse-doping gipsy, and he didn't turn up the nut, when I knocked it down, I'd punch his face sideways."

Tommy's eyes gleamed—this was getting interesting.

"That's just what I feel about it," he urged. "I certainly knocked it down, and him with the face—I mean you, old raspberry nose—said everybody got a nut who knocked one down."

A crowd began to collect.

The man with the leather lungs became excited.

He gave Tommy a very rude push, propelling him by grasping his neck.

"Seems to me," said the man with the truculent whisker, dispassionately—"it seems to me, if that was my kid, and you bilked him of his cokernut and shoved him about as you've just done that little nipper, I'd set about you and you'd give no more nuts away till you came out of the hospital."

Old Leatherlungs thrust his bottom lip outward and breathed hard in the truculent beard.

"I'm a honest man—I am, and this is the ole firm. Been coming to this fair twenty years, off and on. I don't want to say anything about any man's features, but if you don't make yours disappear, I'll knock the whiskers off 'em. And there's no bilking 'ere, lemme tell you. The kid don't get no nut because he ain't paid for knocking it down. If you want to say any more about it, say it, and I'll punch you silly; if you want to go home same as you left your wife, less lip. Now you've got it. Hi! hi!" this half-heartedly—"play up, mi lads—the ole firm, the ole firm, a penny a shy and a milky one every time you knocks it off its perch."

Tommy whined. "He won't gimme my nut," he urged loudly, generally, and tearfully, with one eye on the man with the truculent whisker.

"Why don't you give the kid his nut?" asked a red-faced Yorkshirewoman, loudly. "If he was me bairn he'd have the whole stall after I'd finished with you."

"I saw him knock it down myself," said a weedy-looking mill-hand, attached to a cigarette, who had just that moment come up.

A chorus of voices joined in with "So did I," "Yah, welsher," "Pay out and be a sport," "Give the kid his cocoa," "Dot him in the eye, Whiskers," and other comments and advice.

Business entirely ceased—a storm was brewing. Leatherlungs felt a perceptible draught.

"This is the limit," he said. "What I'd like to know, is this a free country or ain't it? What I'd like to know is—where do I come in? Blimey! has the whole fair gone barmy? Look 'ere, Whiskers, you push off afore I hurt you. And you kiddy, the only nut you'll get is the one you've got on, and if you're not slippy that will be broken. No child of sin is going to bite old George Bingo's ear—I've been on the earth too long. 'Pay and play,' that's my motter—the ole firm—a penny a ball and every nut you knock down."

Mr. Bingo, that was his name, made an earnest attempt to carry the situation and resume business.

"Gimme my nut," Tommy insisted resolutely—"gimme the nut I knocked down."

"Give you a thick ear," Bingo answered, and, acting hastily on his own suggestion, he cut at Tommy's cheek with a flat hand. It missed, as Tommy ducked warily and Bingo nearly knocked his fingers off through an impact with an iron stake.

"What you are," said the red-faced Yorkshirewoman, "is a measley sneak thief, pinching the kid's nut, as well as a coward to strike a baby."

"Child murderer, I call him," suggested the youth attached to the cigarette.

The man with the truculent whisker grabbed Bingo by his Belcher knot.

"Are you going to give the kid his nut, or ain't you?" he asked fiercely.

"I ain't," said Bingo, thickly, "but there's one for your nut to go on with. I don't allow no hayseed to lead me about by the necktie."

The shyman landed out with a hefty punch, which toppled the man with the whiskers over. He got up, seeing red, and the crowd formed a ring. Tommy, delighted, was in the centre.

"Now, then, you men, what's the trouble. Stop it, do you hear? Give way there—give way. None of that, my boys—you ain't territorials. Move on—everybody. What's the silly game between you Jugginses? Think you're in the National Sporting Club?"

The voice of authority spoke through the mouth of a policeman.

"He's got my nut," said Tommy, promptly, pointing at Bingo.

"Yes—he's kept the kid's nut," explained the man with the whiskers, who was also a black eye to the good.

"Fair play is bonnie play," the policeman said, with an air of moral truth. "Give the kid his nut, Bingo, and be slippy."

The policeman did not wait, but suiting the action to the word, picked up a fine nut promising a plethora of milk and thrust it into Tommy's hands.

"You get out of this, at once," he added to the kid. "You, Whiskers, take that eye away and prop it against the nearest lamppost. You'll not be able to explain it either to your missis or your mates. Move on everybody, and you be careful Bingo—I've warned you. There's got to be no monkey tricks in this fair, on my beat, even with cokernuts."

"Play up, play up," cried Bingo, in a thin weak voice—"the ole firm, the ole firm. No extra charge for ladies. A penny a shy and they're all milky."

But there was no heart in it, and the crowd swept by for half an hour before his lungs really sounded as if they were made of leather again.

"Anyhow—I did mark 'im," he was heard to say to himself, some time after, no doubt thinking of the man with the truculent whisker. After that, Bingo seemed to recover his self-respect.

THE DANGER OF THE DANCE.

(*A typical protest from a Scotch reader.*)

We have received the following letter from a Scotch reader, Mr. W. F. Osborne, of 2, Airlie Terrace, Dundee. We have shown it to Mrs. Bull, who has forbidden us to ever dance again!

May I be favoured with this insertion in your columns as an argument against the subject of dancing, in your issue of August 21st, 1909?

Now, sir, you say that dancing is an innocent pastime. But I beg to differ on the point that it is to be regarded as an amusement, most destructive and dangerous to virtue.

Late hours, expensive dressing, violent and protracted exertion, and other arguments might be used as a sufficient array of argument showing the objectionable character of this amusement (?).

To my mind, however, the insurmountable objection, and that which constitutes its greatest attractiveness, consists in its appeal to the sensual nature.

The insufficient dressing, the undue exposure of the persons of the females of the dance, the suggestive attitudes, the personal contact, and the undue license allowed while whirling upon the floor to the strains of music, are such as cannot help but arouse in any strong, vigorous man the strong sensual tendencies and propensities of his nature.

"A HANDY MAN."

Apropos the announcement we recently published, under this heading, a reader sends us the following, which, he says, is taken from an old sign-board at Burton's Curiosity Shop, Falmouth:—

ROGER GILES,

SURGIN, PARISH CLARK & SKULEMASTER, GROSER AND HUNDERTAKER,

Respectably informs ladys and gentleman that he drors teef without wateing a minit, applys laches every hour, blisters on the lowest tarms, and vizicks for penny a peace. He sells Goliathers kordeals, kuts korns, bunyons, docters hosses, clips conkies wance a munth, and hundertakes to luke arter every bodies nayles by the car. Joesharps, penny wissels, bras kandlsticks, fryin pans, and other moozikal hinstruments hat grately redooced figers. Young ladys and gentleman larnes their gramur and langeuage in the purtiest mannar, also grate kare taken off their morrels and spellin. Also zarm zinging taychin the base vial, and all other sorts of fancy work, squadrils, pokers, weazils, and all countrie dancis tort at home and abrode at perfekshun. Perfummery and snuff in all its branshes. As times is creul bad I begs to tell ee that i has just beginned to sell all sorts of stashonary ware, cox, hens, vouls, pigs, and all other kinds of poultry. Blackin brishes, herrins, coles, scrubin brishes and godley bokes and bibles, mise traps, brick dust, whisker seeds, morrel pokers and karchers, and all sarts of swaitmaits including taters, sassages and other gardin stuff, bakky zigars, lamp oyle, tay kitties, and other intoxizikatin likkers, a dale of fruit, hats, zongs, hare oyle, pallins, bukkits, grindin stones and other aitables, korn and bunyon zalve and all hardwear. I as layd in a large azzortment of trype, dog mate, lolipops, ginger beer, matches and other pikkles, such as hepzom zalls, hoysters, Winzer sope anzetrar. Old rags bort and zold here and nowhare else, newlayde heggs by me Roger Giles; zingin burdes keeped sich as howles, donkies, pavkox, lobsters, crikets, also a stock of a celebrated brayder.

P.S. I tayches gography, rithmetic, cowsticks, jimnasticks, and other chynees triks.

A SCENE AT BRIGHTON.

The First Over-Channel Flight

(Baraques to Dover, July 25, 1909)

M. Bleriot's momentous achievement in flying from France to England in a heavier than air machine is destined to become a milestone in History.

Nerve Strain, Despondency, Exhaustion

All the world knows about the Great Channel Flight, but it is from M. Bleriot himself we learn how much his marvellous conquest of the air depended upon the nerve force and endurance created by Phosferine.

The great aviator confesses that the magnitude of his undertaking made him apprehensive and despondent, and only by reinforcing his nerve power with Phosferine was he able to endure the great strain which resulted in such a brilliant triumph.

It is an established fact that the most brainy and daring men recognise success depends on man's *own* driving power—*nerve energy*, and M. Bleriot's tribute to the *energising* efficacy of Phosferine was preceded by that of his countryman, M. Farman, the famous aeroplanist, and thousands of distinguished people all over the world.

It is M. Bleriot's conviction that aerial flight is impossible without an abundance of nerve force to withstand the unseen risks, shock, or effects of exposure, and his Channel flight experience of the vitalising potency and permanent staying power of Phosferine has compelled his grateful appreciation.

Entirely Dispelled and Prevented.

M. Louis Bleriot, the first man to fly across the English Channel, writes:—"I have also found, as my colleague M. Henri Farman has, that a considerable amount of benefit is to be derived from the use of Phosferine as a nerve tonic.

"During the long, hazardous training flights that have been necessary with my different machines, previous to arriving at the perfection that my latest machine has attained, and the consequent mishaps which must necessarily prevail, Phosferine has stood me in good stead.

"For anyone, no matter what capacity, I can with confidence recommend Phosferine as a bracing nerve tonic and preventive against fatigue and a restorative for loss of vitality."—July 29th, 1909.

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

Neuralgia	Premature Decay	Anæmia
Rheumatism	Maternity Weakness	Malaria
Brain-fag	Nervous Headaches	Sciatica
Indigestion	Sleeplessness	Nervousness

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

The Remedy of Kings.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Command

To the Royal Family
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia
H.M. the Queen of Roumania
H.M. the King of Greece
H.I.M. the Dowager Empress of Russia
The Imperial Family of China

And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the World.

PHOSFERINE RE-CREATES THE NERVE FORCES.

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OUR SPECIAL POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

SPECIALLY MIS-REPORTED FOR "JOHN BULL."
By RICHARD MORTON.

ANOTHER INJUSTICE TO IRELAND—TYPICAL CASE.

A case of exceptional interest, as showing the commercial cuteness of a great race, was heard yesterday at the East End Police Court, when Solomon Levy Lazarus, described as an Irishman, was summoned in respect of illegal infringements of the Merchandise Marks Act by selling goods to which the false description of Irish goods had been applied.

Mr. Knobbler, in opening the case, said the present instance was one of many that had come to the knowledge of the prosecution. It appeared that certain manufactured Irish goods had acquired a first-class reputation with the public at large by reason of their superior quality and lasting value. There was also ever present a wave of sympathy for the Irish workers; English people felt that in buying Irish goods they were helping the Sister Isle and aiding the reviving industries of that distressful country. Smart traders like the defendant Lazarus were quick to see large possibilities in the business, and did not scruple to take advantage of them by any means in their power. He had no prejudice against Jews, and, indeed, he admired the promptitude with which they saw a chance and took it. Such an idea would never strike the sleepy Saxon in centuries. In the present case, however, he thought he should be able to show that defendant had overstepped the bounds of legitimate competition and, in his anxiety to profit by English sympathy for things Irish had gone a bit too far.

Mr. Pincher, an Inspector in Great Britain for the Irish Board of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, said he, acting on orders, attended the Grand Irish Industrial Exhibition held at the Emerald Palace, in Petticoat Lane, Whitechapel. He saw there a stall with a signboard over it, announcing "The Four-Leaved Shamrock Society of Dublin and Whitechapel." On the stall was displayed a large quantity of goods described as being Irish linen or Irish poplin. Defendant was in charge of the stall, and witness entered into conversation. He said he wanted to buy some handkerchiefs of Irish linen. He was accordingly supplied with six handkerchiefs, for which he paid ninepence each. Before concluding his purchase, he asked if they were genuine Irish linen as represented, and defendant Lazarus said they were "real Irish, s'help him." When asked if he was certain, defendant replied, "They are as real Irish as I am, my tear." (Laughter.)

Cross-examined: Defendant did say he was an Irishman, born at Dublin, on the banks of the Shannon. When witness pointed out that the Shannon and Dublin were rather far apart, the defendant said yes, he believed his mother did have a long way to walk.

Re-examined: The handkerchiefs were really Manchester cotton. They were certainly not worth ninepence each.

Further evidence was given to the fact that the defendant's billheads bore an address in Dublin, which was alleged to be the manufactory of "The Four-Leaved Shamrock Society of Dublin and Whitechapel." The house indicated was a newspaper shop, where letters were received at a penny a time.

The defendant Lazarus gave evidence, and said he never claimed to be an Irishman. There could be no charge of false pretences on that score, for, even if he had called himself a Paddy, anybody had only to look at him to be convinced that he was nothing of the kind. If he might say so, his nationality was apparent on the face of him. Further, he pleaded that in selling the articles he had only yielded to a natural desire to supply a public demand.

The Magistrate, in deciding the case, said it was a smart move on the part of the defendant to take advantage of the existence of widespread English sympathy for the Irish people, but it could not be allowed to go on. If we were weak enough to countenance the selling of Manchester cotton as Irish linen, and foreign shoddy material as Irish poplin, we should soon be winking at American margarine posing as Irish butter, Chinese pork passing as Irish bacon, and Jersey cows guaranteed to be Irish bulls. (Laughter.) He therefore imposed a penalty of two guineas, with five guineas costs, and recommended Mr. Lazarus and others of his talented race to turn their remarkable abilities to some other branch of industry. If they took his advice, he had no doubt that they would go on and prosper. It was their habit to do so. (More laughter, in which defendant heartily joined.)

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—LX.

(*A descendant of John and Charles Wesley appeals for help.*)

In a recenf issue I notice that you remark that the grand-daughters of Mr. Charles Dickens had shown foresight in the selection of their grandfather. Perhaps you may think that I, too, have shown foresight in choosing, or rather, happening to be a descendant of John and Charles Wesley, the two well-known brothers, Charles being my great-grandfather, and as I am in straitened circumstances I would gladly put forward my claim to public sympathy. I am 68 years of age, and have brought up a family upon the proceeds of my work as an artist, and have placed them all out in life, and, in the meantime, I am lingering on without means sufficient to exist upon.

My mother received an income from the profits derived from the sale of her grandfather's celebrated hymns, but this, it seems, cannot be continued to me, although I am the only living descendant of the two brothers who really needs help. There are now only myself and two sisters remaining of the family direct from John and Charles, and I daresay you know how the property of Garrett Wesley was disposed of. I here give you an extract from Dr. Stephenson's "Memorials of the Wesley Family," as follows:—

"The name of Wesley had been prominently before the public for about half a century, when, on September 28th, 1728, Garrett Wesley, Esq., of Dangan, in Ireland, M.P. for the County of Meath, died without leaving issue. Charles Wesley was at that time under his brother's care and tuition at Westminster.

"An application was made to the Rector of Epworth some time previously to know if he had a son named Charles, and if so, was he willing that he should become the heir of Garrett Wesley, of Dangan. Charles was nearly of age, and he preferred to leave the decision of this important matter to his father. The responsibility of deciding was ultimately left with Charles, who was visited at Westminster by someone from Ireland, who, it is believed, was Garrett Wesley himself, and who tried to prevail on Charles to accept the heirship. Charles ultimately declined the offer, preferring to remain in England; but some sent money to Westminster for several years to pay for his education. Failing to secure a scion in the Epworth family, Garrett Wesley left all his estates to Richard Cowley, Esq., a more distant relative than Charles Wesley, on condition that he should assume the surname and arms of Wesley. This he did, and Richard Cowley, Wesley's heir in 1747, was created by George II. the first Lord Mornington, and *he* became the grandfather of Arthur, Duke of Wellington, as will be seen in the pedigree of the family on another page. John Wesley many years afterwards wrote of his brother's decision that it was a 'fair escape.'

"Divine Providence decided this question in the mind of Charles Wesley. Had the choice been otherwise, Methodism would not have had his genius in providing for its services those incomparable spiritual hymns, and the British nation would not have had the Duke of Wellington as its great military hero. The decision of that young man determined matters of immense importance to both the Church and the nation. We have no intimation that Charles Wesley ever regretted the choice he made."

P.S.—If you should see you way to helping me in securing help in my straitened circumstances I need not say I should feel deeply grateful.

We have received a further postal order for 3s. for the writer of Human Document No. LVI. from E. L. M. P. (Midhurst) which we have forwarded to the writer of the Document.

We have received a postal order for £1 for the writer of Human Document No. LVIII. from W. M., which we have forwarded to the proper quarter.

SHAMS.—No. III.

The following advertisement appeared in the *Evening News* of September 1st:—

BUSINESSES.—IF YOU WANT TO SELL OR BUY, APPLY TO JONES BROS., 93, HIGH RD., CHISWICK. CLIENTS WAITING. NO SALE, NO CHARGE.

We are informed that Messrs. Jones Bros. are in the habit of advertising for managers who deposit security for £25 and one even paid down £100. Security never recovered. We are also informed that they were recently cleared out by the bailiff (it is a small second-hand furniture shop, and one half is used by a confederate trading as a business transfer agent under the name of Sidney). We are told, too, that Barclay's Bank, of Kew Bridge, recently closed Messrs. Jones' account, owing to the state of the account and the practice of giving cheques that are not met.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?
See Page iii of Cover.

1,000 WEEKS OLD.

THE 1000th NUMBER OF

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IT IS THE MOST AMAZING PAPER EVER ISSUED.

PRICE **2D.**

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CUCKOO SONG. By RUDYARD KIPLING.

WHEN OUR SHIP COMES A-SAILIN' HOME. By LEONARD MERRICK.

THE HAMMER BOAT. By ALLEN UPWARD.

THE MAN BY THE WAYSIDE. By S. R. CROCKETT.

THE SON OF HIS FATHER. By HALL CAINE.

AN ADVENTURE IN SEVILLE. By MAX PEMBERTON.

A LITTLE ROMANCE OF "P.W." By WILLIAM LE QUEUX.

PULL THE RIGHT STRING. By BARRY PAIN.

MRS. KETTLE'S POINT OF VIEW. By C. J. CUTCLIFFE HYNE.

A COMPLICATED QUESTION. By G. B. BURGIN.

HIS LESSON. By WINIFRED GRAHAM.

THE HORSE DEALER. By JEROME K. JEROME.

A STORY OF A SNAKE. By J. E. PRESTON MUDDOCK.

SOMEONE ELSE'S ROMANCE. By E. TEMPLE THURSTON.

DICKIE SCAMP. By Mrs. NEISH.

A BUDDING ARTIST. By F. FRANKFORT MOORE.

MY DUEL WITH DEATH. By JAMES DOUGLAS.

A REMINISCENCE OF MEREDITH. By H. B. MARRIOTT WATSON.

THE STORY OF "THE FINAL WAR." By LOUIS TRACY.

PROPHETIC WORDS. By W. PETT RIDGE.

A NOVELIST'S DILEMMA. By Mrs. C. N. WILLIAMSON.

THE MAN WITH THE GOOD NAME. By TOM GALLON.

THE SECRET EXPLOSIVE. By ARTHUR W. MARCHMONT.

BEST CRICKET STORY IN THE WORLD. By HESKETH PRICHARD.

A RING AND A COMPLIMENT. By GUY THORNE.

THE OLD PORTMANTEAU. By GEO. R. SIMS.

NEAR JERICHO. By ROBERT HICHENS.

THE CULBIN SANDS. By RIDER HAGGARD.

HOW THE F.A.F. WAS STARTED. By Sir JOHN KIRK.

MY EXPERIENCES AS AN INTERVIEWER FOR "P.W." By Capt. NORMAN FRASER.

THE THOUSANDTH NUMBER OF "P.W." By C. ARTHUR PEARSON.

HOW "P.W." WAS STARTED. By PETER KEARY.

THE BUSINESS SIDE OF "P.W." By J. M. BATHGATE.

EDITING 500 MAGAZINES. By P. W. EVERETT

OUT TO-DAY.

THE BLIND RECTOR'S WIFE.

A CASE FOR THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.

About two months ago there was a case in the Divorce Court which attracted considerable attention. The circumstances were unusual. The petitioner was a blind man of blameless character, the Rev. Canon Gedge, Rector of Gravesend. The only evidence against the respondent, Mrs. Beatrice Frances Josephine Gedge, *nee* Griffith-Colpoys, was her own confession, which she had retracted, the retractation having been published in *The Times* of January 14th last. Since then the respondent had again affirmed her guilt, but she did not go into the witness box. The co-respondent was the Rev. Herbert John Martin, then, as now, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Old Brompton, Chatham, who went into the box, admitted compromising situations, explained them on the theory that Mrs. Gedge was violently in love with him, and swore that there was no truth whatever in the charge of improper relations. The case was tried by Sir John Bigham without a jury, and he was "satisfied that this lady did a great injustice to herself and to Mr. Martin." The Bishop of Rochester, who gave evidence, agreed. Accordingly, the rector's suit was dismissed, and he was ordered to pay the co-respondent's costs, the respondent, having separate estate, paying her own.

At the trial, two letters from Mr. Martin were put in, which at first he said were not written by him, but in the witness box he admitted they were his. They were anonymous letters, written in pencil, and, as Mr. Martin now admits, addressed to Mrs. Gedge; and it is not very easy to understand how, with these letters before him, Sir John Bigham was able to come to the conclusion that there had been no guilty relations. But, as we have said, there was no jury, and the judge dismissed the petition.

In our issue of July 24th we made a slight reference to the case which, in Mrs. Gedge's opinion, did her less than justice. We said that Mrs. Gedge must be a very wicked or a very imaginative woman, and Mrs. Gedge protests that we had no right to suggest that she invented the charges. We cannot see that there is ground for objection on her part to our observations upon the case, but in discussing the matter with her certain statements were made which we have examined, and which have satisfied us that this case ought to be re-opened.

It is necessary, in order that the reader shall be in a position to form an opinion for himself, to relate as briefly as possible the facts which led up to the abortive petition. On September 13th, 1908, Mrs. Gedge told her husband that she had been guilty of adultery, and that she had written to the Bishop of Rochester, making confession. Mrs. Gedge alleged that the adultery had been committed with the Rev. Herbert John Martin, the Vicar of Holy Trinity, Old Brompton, Chatham. About the same time, Mrs. Gedge sent certain postcards to Mr. Martin, in which she charged him with being a seducer, liar, and coward. As a result, and under pressure from the Bishop, he applied for a warrant, but it is to be noted that he charged Mrs. Gedge with defamatory libel only, not with libel "well knowing it to be false." The case came on for hearing before Mr. Justice Ridley, at Maidstone Assizes, in November. The judge demurred to trying it, insisting that it was a case for the Consistory Court, and in consequence it was referred to that Court. The Bishop was not unwilling that the Consistory Court should try it, but upon finding that Mrs. Gedge was not prepared to meet the costs he reconsidered his view, and decided that the case had better go back to the Assizes. Meantime, Canon Gedge filed his petition.

On January 14th, 1909, Mrs. Gedge published in *The Times* the retractation referred to above. She tells us that she was persuaded to do this by a friend of Mr. Martin, one of his sidesmen at Chatham, Mr. Sutton. However that may be, she declared that the charges she made on the postcards were false. Mrs. Gedge says she made this retractation in order to save Mr. Martin, and the Bishop accepted it as conclusive of Mr. Martin's innocence. But when it came to filing an answer to her husband's petition, Mrs. Gedge refused to admit that she had falsely charged Mr. Martin, and swore that there had been misconduct between them. This was at the end of January, and at that time there were two actions proceeding, the one of the Canon against his wife in the Divorce Court, and the other in which Mr. Martin sued Mrs. Gedge at the Assizes for libel. The Assize case came on in February, but it was not heard. Mrs. Gedge appeared and was prepared to justify the libel, but counsel for Mr. Martin got up and said that his client was content with the retractation that had appeared in *The Times*, and withdrew from the prosecution. But there was the general plea on the record of "Not guilty," and that was in issue for the jury. They therefore gave a verdict of "Not guilty." Mrs. Gedge would have been contented with nothing less. The Vicar's action in the matter does not suggest innocence. Surely an injured man would have insisted that the retractation should be read in Court, that Mrs. Gedge should have consented to a plea of guilty, should have given an undertaking not to repeat the libel, and should have been bowed over. All this if the Vicar was innocent.

These are the facts briefly stated. When the case came before Mr. Justice Bigham, and he decided that there had been no adultery, he seems to have rested that decision upon the fact that, to quote him, "it was a matter of common knowledge that at certain periods women were unfortunately victims of their own imagination." But, as it seems to us, the whole surrounding circumstances, of some of which the Judge was not informed, go to show that in this case there has been a most serious miscarriage of justice, and that the Rector of Gravesend, who was entitled to release from his wife, but was refused it, has suffered grievous wrong.

Now in a case of this kind, where admittedly there are difficulties, much must surely depend upon the record of the man who is co-respondent. Here again, men of the world know quite well how unwise it is to dogmatise. But when, as in the case under consideration, a man whose past record is, to say the least of it, bad, is charged with seducing another man's wife, then surely that fact must weigh with intelligent and open-minded men. Well, we have made enquiries about the past of the Reverend Herbert John Martin, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Old Brompton, Chatham. Our enquiries have covered the period from the time when, as a young man, he first served as a curate in the North, but we will confine ourselves for the present purpose to certain incidents that happened whilst he was Vicar of Gerrans, a beautiful hamlet on the coast of Cornwall. And here the tale shall be told by a neighbour of his, who was personally acquainted at the time with the facts which he narrates. This is what he says:—

The career of the Rev. H. J. Martin throughout has been associated with stories of intrigues with women, and when matters have got too warm for him in his parish he has quietly exchanged livings. He was for some years Vicar of Kyre, Worcestershire, but disquieting stories commenced to circulate, and in 1902 he exchanged for the living of Gerrans, a beautifully situated country parish on the coast of Cornwall. He had not been there long before there were allegations of illicit relations with a young woman of the village. Then he appears to have dominated a lady named Peters, the childless wife of a wealthy local gentleman living in the parish. He prevailed upon her to become organist at the Church, to act as Sunday-school teacher, and finally as private governess to his children. The parishioners were astonished because of the lady's social standing, and remarked upon the frequency with which the Rector and Mrs. Peters were seen together, and especially the fact that they were seen entering and leaving the church after dusk. The sexton (now deceased) said he had seen them in the church kissing one another, and there were all sorts of stories that they had been seen in the country lanes in compromising positions. The squire of the parish denounced the rector to his face. The rectory earned the name locally of "the rector's harem." The parish reeked with scandal. At last matters became so bad that the Bishop of Truro sent the Archdeacon of Cornwall to Gerrans to hold an inquiry. But no actual charge of immorality could be proved against the rector. Then another lady entered Gerrans from an adjoining parish—Miss Hatcher, a middle-aged lady with private means, who engaged in church work and became a frequent visitor at the rectory. Mrs. Peters was thrown over, and Miss Hatcher installed as governess to the rector's children. The ladies continued to associate, however, until Miss Hatcher communicated to Mrs. Peters something the rector had imparted to her. That occurred on a Sunday afternoon, and that evening Mrs. Peters did not go to church. She remained at home and wrote three letters, one to her husband, the second to Miss Hatcher, and the third to the rector. Leaving the one for her husband on the hall-stand Mrs. Peters personally delivered the other two. The letter to her husband contained the following:—

> "This afternoon has done it. The last straw kills. I can bear it no longer. I am determined to settle it once for all. If you find my dead body, bear up and try to be as happy as possible under the circumstances."

What the letters to Miss Hatcher and the rector contained was never made public. But the villagers did not require much shrewdness to guess; they said, "There's been a row in the

's harem." Within an hour of the delivery of the letters village was pulsating with excitement. The letters ly alarmed the rector and Miss Hatcher, and they on the coastguards to search for the missing lady. the village the rector and Mr. Peters met. Mr. Peters, who protested against the intimacy between his wife the rector, called the reverend gentleman a villain, and him of being responsible for his wife's suicide. "What come of my wife, you blackguard?" asked Mr. Peters ctor. "I don't know," whimpered the rector. "You Was not my wife down at the rectory this afternoon?" No. I haven't seen her for the day," answered the rector. You are a dirty liar," roared a fisherman from among the I saw her leave the rectory this afternoon." "Well, there for a little time," he confessed. Subsequently was ascertained that Mrs. Peters was in the rector's library afternoon, that high words passed between them, and that ctor ejected her forcibly from the house. The crowd angry, and the rector had to flee to his house to escape treatment from his angry parishioners.

cliffs and beaches were scoured during the night for the Mrs. Peters. At last she was found drenched to the She had entered the sea in an effort to commit suicide, but was washed back on the beach. Then she heard voices, and hid behind a hedge. When found, she was hysterical. was carried home, and a medical man summoned. For time she lost her mental balance, and when she recovered, husband removed her from the parish and closed his house. whole matter received publicity in the Press, and the rector, an interview, remarked, "Of course, we were very friendly, but there was never anything wrong." With characteristic the Rector next Sunday referred to the sensation, preached a sermon on "Gossip, and its evils." His text was, "Follow thou Me," and he told his hearers that if they were slanderers or tale-bearers they could not be followers of Christ. But the parishioners were not to be convinced, and on the night of November 5th they burnt the effigies of rector and Miss Hatcher. The effigies were taken to rectory, which was guarded by policemen, and thence to a spot near the sea, where they were consigned to the flames amid a tumult of groans and hisses. This dramatic episode occurred in November, 1906. Things were becoming too warm in more senses than one, and the Rev. H. J. Martin thought it was time to move. Once again he effected an exchange, and became Vicar of Holy Trinity, Old Brompton, Chatham.

The facts recorded by our correspondent were not before the Court in the Divorce proceedings. Why not? Surely they were relevant? And why was the case tried without a jury? It was in the Special Jury list, but when an Interlocutory application came before Mr. Justice Bigham in Chambers, he decided that he would dispense with a jury. It is very significant that after the Judge had dismissed the Canon's petition, the co-respondent, through his solicitors, handed a cheque for £75 to Mrs. Gedge's solicitors in payment of her costs. Why should he do this for a woman who, if he was innocent, had grossly wronged him? We answer that just as the reverend gentleman was content to let the verdict go against him at Maidstone because he knew there was no libel, so he paid the costs of the woman who had charged him with infamous conduct because she had withdrawn the charge with the object of saving him. It seems to us that the facts we have adduced should lead the Bishop of Rochester to consider whether it is not his duty to reopen this matter, and by a really exhaustive inquiry to ascertain whether the Rev. Herbert John Martin is, or is not, a fit and proper person to remain a priest of the Church of England.

EMIGRATION TO NEW ZEALAND.

We have received the following letter. Perhaps the Agent-General for New Zealand will look into the matter:—

> I notice in a recent issue of JOHN BULL your comment on the conduct of the New Zealand Emigration Agent, and thought my case might interest you. About this time last year I made up my mind to go out to join other members of my family in New Zealand, and applied to the High Commissioner for reduced fare (which he so largely advertised). A clerk sent me various forms, which I filled up, giving them all particulars, mentioning the facts that I have one brother farming at Wanganui, Wellington, New Zealand, another doing well with a firm of land agents in Wellington, and a brother-in-law working on the Government railways; also that I was born and bred in the country, had milked cows from the time I was eight years old, and would take sufficient money to cover the Government requirements.
>
> They have not answered my last letter so far, so I am still wondering why I was not considered a satisfactory applicant.

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Name.....

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VARIETIES.

By N. H.-D.

(*The silly season has begun. Below are printed a few of the letters we have received this week.*—ED.)

DEAR SIR,—I bought a lobster this week, and asking the fishmonger if it was fresh, he replied, "Certainly, Madam, it is alive." I could see that, you know, for it was moving its claws in the quaintest manner.

On my bringing it home, my husband exclaimed, "By Jove! that lobster is bad; it's quite *black!*"

Would you kindly tell me if I could bring an action for damages against the fishmonger?

Yours Perplexedly,
A. NEW-WED.

DERE SUR—mite a pore workin man arst wot sort a game loyd gorge is up to torkin about publik ouses an beer swillin and cetrer wots e know about it e may know about leeks an eating but wot i want to know is why us pore as to pay a farden more a glars for our drop er beer pritty sort er lors we ave soon I dont think a parsel er fellers settin there playin triks an not takin no notis wot there put in parlimunt for

wot price taxis

we orl injoy payin taxis o yus an were umbly thenkful wen we git more shoved on wile orl them fellers thinks of is to put on us pore an pinch big jobs for thereselves

wot i want to say is

it aint crikit an it aint sence

A ONEST BRITISH WORKMAN.

DEAR SIR,—I should be very glad if you, or some of your numerous readers, would give me your valuable advice on the following matter:

My boy, eleven years of age, has lately taken to reading literature which I can only regard as having a pernicious influence on his character.

One of the books I found him absorbed in is called "Scorpion Sam, or the Sea Hyena," and the picture on the cover depicts a small boy with a cutlass between his teeth, a revolver in his hand, and a few knives in his belt. This youth is boarding a vessel, the crew of which are shrinking in terror from him!

What shall I do with my boy?

If you could spare time, I should be most obliged if you would also tell me what is the best thing to be done to curb the genius of my youngest little girl, aged three, whose intelligence is really wonderful. Only the other day she lisped, "Da-da, what's clouds?"

Now, Sir, I think you will agree that this shows a remarkable train of thought for so young a child, and I fear her brain will be strained if she is not kept back for a time.

Your advice on these matters will be appreciated.

AN ANXIOUS FATHER.

DEAR SIR,—I am staying for my Summer vacation at a well-known seaside resort, and the other day, walking along a remote part of the seashore, I came upon some men bathing from the beach!

I have passed that way every day since, and the disgusting spectacle still goes on.

What shall I do?

A SHOCKED AND BLUSHING SPINSTER.

DEAR SIR,—As an ardent student of questions of the day, it occurs to me that many most important subjects are omitted (thoughtlessly) by our newspapers.

For instance, musing seriously (as is my wont) the other day, I found myself uttering aloud, "Why does a bluebottle fly buzz?"

Now, Sir, what an interesting train of thought that simple question opens! What a fund of information to be gained by the discussion of such a subject!

Will *you* open the discussion?

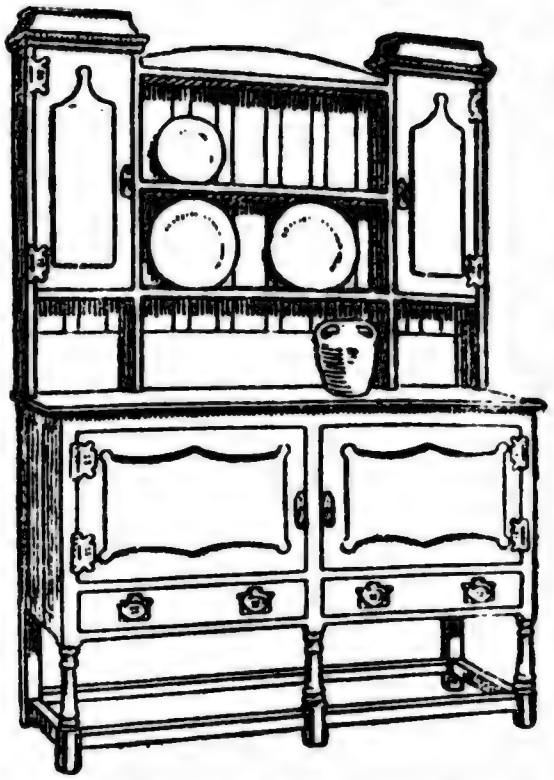
A SEEKER AFTER KNOWLEDGE.

SIR,—I notice a good bit of talk going on about foreigners flying the Channel.

Well, *I* think they ought *not* to be allowed to, and anyone who thinks they should is a pig-headed fool!

A DETERMINED BRITON.

[Who would be an Editor?—ED.]



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NEWS AS IT IS "TELEGRAPH"-ED.

By R. M.

This is avowedly a commercial age, and the advertiser looms large on every hand, being specially welcomed by our great and glorious press. He has the nice habit of paying for his welcome in good coin of the realm, and in this way he is of advantage to the reader, who is supplied with better value for his money by reason of the grist that the advertiser brings to the mill. Sometimes, however, his presence is made almost too patently plain, and he gets so mixed up with the news that one scarcely knows which is which. Occasionally, too, there seems almost as much advertisement as news in certain columns in certain daily papers.

As instances in point, I have culled a few extracts from special articles which have not yet appeared in the *Daily Telegraph*. But they represent faithfully the kind of thing I have been very near reading of late. They give the very latest news in the very best *Telegraph* style :—

BURGLARY AT EALING.

A rough-looking fellow was arrested at Ealing while trying to dispose of some knives and forks, valued at half-a-crown the proceeds of a robbery at London Road. He was remanded.

Insure against burglary with the All-at-Sea Accident and Trust Corporation, Camomile Street, Wormwood Street, E.C.

PARIS DAY BY DAY.

King Pataud has not yet abdicated, but a crisis in the Cabinet is regarded as imminent.

Everybody in Paris drinks Merrier Water.

Firemen's Fountain Pens. From all Firemen.

BY THE SILVER SEA.

Gravesend.

Yesterday the weather was fine, though somewhat breezy.

There are boats on the water every day, and the scene is quite gay. Should the weather improve it will be better.

Hotel Expensive. Best pos. sea fr. El. lt. Mod. Com. Gar.

Flagstaff Butter, Eggs and Tea new-laid every day.

Shipton's Shops open daily till closing time.

Free guide on application to Town Hall. Price One Shilling.

COUNTY LIFE.

Hanwell.

The great public building here is rapidly filling up for the season, and most of the inmates are making themselves quite at home.

Shipton's Shops are here. You cannot miss them.

LOCAL LIFE IN LONDON.

Ponder's End.

The Sunday School treat took place last week, and was a highly exhilarating function. As a novelty, there were races and games, and buns and oranges formed part of a most delectable repast.

Shipton's Shops are here. You cannot get away from them.

Write for Illustrated Pictorial Guide, with pictures.

LONDON DAY BY DAY.

The Grand Duke Malachi of Russia, on his way to Berlin from Vienna, passed through London yesterday. He will call at the Foreign Office to-morrow, before leaving for New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Murgatroyd-Smith have left town for their country seat, Streatham Hall, Norwood, S.W.

OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

Messrs. C. W. Wallace Bruce and Co., Aerated Water, Brewers', and Bottlers' Engineers, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, recently advertised for an office boy, and they have been good enough to show us the original of the following letter which was one of those received in response. We withhold the boy's address :—

> SIR,—Seeing an advertisement for a smart boy for Office Work just left school, 14 years of age, I please apply on behalf of your benefit with your regards to fulfil my promise, and try and give me the situation I am applying for. Will you kindly oblige.

Chairman
A fine Tobacco.

The smoking of

Chairman

is one of the pleasures of life which count. ¶ It is a well-blended mixture of ripe tobaccos, some of which are unknown to pipe smokers except in Chairman. ¶ Their qualities and fine smoking properties are the reason of their selection. ¶ They make Chairman what it is—a pipe tobacco of quality that will satisfy most pipe smokers—and continue to satisfy them, whether they smoke much or little. ¶ It is cool, always cool, and burns evenly and slowly to the last shred with a rich and pleasing aroma.

Boardman's is the same tobacco milder, and

Recorder the same but fuller flavoured.

Most tobacconists sell them at 6d. per oz. in 1 and 2 oz. packets and ¼ and ½ lb. tins.

R. J. LEA, Manchester.

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OPEN LETTERS, POST-CARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To Sir Spencer Pocklington Maryon Maryon-Wilson, Bart., Charlton House, Old Charlton, Kent.

EFFULGENT AND AURIFEROUS SIR,—I have had the infinite felicity of gazing upon the epistolary communication which you have indicted and addressed to the insignificant individuals who, by Providential good fortune, offer for your gracious acceptance various sums of money by regular instalments for the privilege of living on your broad and plenteous lands. If your Unparalleled Excellency will permit your humble servant to express an opinion on so exquisite an example of twentieth-century literature, I shall crave leave to remark that it has afforded your humble, as aforementioned, several moments of unalloyed rapture. As you inform or advise those who gratefully bask in the radiance of your August Presence when you are about, and in your not less August Invisibility when you are not, "there is a strong feeling amongst Baronets that the expression 'Dear Sir,' being constantly used in commencing a letter nowadays to their servants, is not only incongruous but also discourteous when applied to members of this Ancient and Hereditary Degree." Verily it beseems not men of so lowly an earthly station under the dispositions of an over-ruling Providence to address themselves to your Puissant and Exalted Majesties with the rude and intimate familiarity which characterises their vulgar relationships with one another. When, therefore, your Sublimated Baronetship expresses your will and pleasure that henceforth they will accord to you your title and "commence their letters 'Sir Baronet,' instead of 'Dear Sir,'" I am conscious of a responsive heart flopping thirteen to the dozen within a heaving bosom. I dare not write more lest the pen of felicitation miss the inkpot of reverence and dip into the well of tears.

JOHN BULL.

To Miss Marie Corelli, Story Teller, Stratford-on-Avon.

DEAR MARIE,—Lest you have not heard it, I must tell you the latest story concerning one of your immortal works, especially as it has now got about among the lawyers in the Temple, and may shortly be whispered among the judges in the Law Courts. It appears that a Lagos jury were recently about to be sworn in a case, when it was discovered that there was not a single copy of the Scriptures in court. Search was made high and low, up and down, and presently the usher dashed in with a book in his hand, assuring the judge that it was the nearest to the Scriptures he could find. The gentlemen of the jury were accordingly sworn upon it, and subsequently proceeded to their duties, to discover afterwards that they had been sworn on—"The Sorrows of Satan." Had not you better wire to Lagos offering to swop that book for a copy of "The Christian"? The devil may be all very well to swear *at*, Marie dear, but I am sure you will agree with me that, notwithstanding your lament for his tribulations, he is not the sort of fellow creature to swear *by*, being on ticket-of-leave, and still under suspicion of the police and clergy. I trust you still find trade awfully good.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. E. S. Buchanan, Curate of St. Paul's, Onslow Square.

REV. SIR,—Mr. Gully, the ex-Speaker's son, having been divorced, was not permitted to be married again in church, but had to go to a registry-office. After this function, he went to St. Paul's, Onslow Square, and asked a blessing of one of your fellow-curates. The kind, good, charitable vicar (Prebendary Webb-Peploe) was enjoying himself in Switzerland at the time, but directly he heard of the blessing, he waxed very wroth and proclaimed his sorrow that the blessing should have been given without his sanction. You thereupon hastened to express your sincere regret that the young couple should have received the good wishes of your colleague. May I ask whether you regard a blessing as equivalent to a sacrament; whether you deny that the desire for this blessing was in itself an act of contrition, and whether you imagine that your action is likely to popularise Christianity? Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites.

JOHN BULL.

To Mrs. Longhurst, St. Stephens Road, Bow.

MOST ABLE MADAME,—I see that in recognition of your considerable services in assisting the increase of the population of your native land by becoming the mother of three in one comprehensive effort, His Majesty the King has sent you the sum of £2. Pray present this letter with my compliments, to the Right Hon. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, and inform him that he has my permission to authorise the Exchequer to [illegible] grant to you of £10 per each in further recognition of your gallant conduct and to encourage other British matrons to emulate your example. It has long been recognised by the Registrar-General that the national output of babies has degenerated into the numerical unsatisfactory, and I cannot conceive a better method of removing the causes of his annual lamentation than by liberally rewarding matronly merit when, as in your case, it is conspicuously deserved. I am even inclined to think that, in addition, gold medals and silver medals should be struck, the first for triplets, and the second for twins, to rank in order with the Victoria Cross and the Royal Albert medal. With my heartiest thanks and good wishes on behalf of the whole nation,

JOHN B[illegible]

To Prebendary Hutchinson, The Vicarage, Blurton, Potteries.

MY DEAR PREBENDARY,—Will you permit me to join in the congratulations which have poured in upon you on the attainment of your ninety-ninth birthday? Yours has been a long life, and I feel sure it has been worth living—

"For life with all its yields of joy and woe,
And hope and fear (believe the aged friend),
Is just our chance o' the prize of learning love—
How love might be, hath been indeed, and is."

Seventy-four years in Orders, forty-four years among the people of yours at Blurton! Still you are preaching sermons and kicking off at football matches; and they tell me, you "have no fads." It is all very wonderful and all very good to hear about and think about. May you round off your record by turning the century and seeing the earlier years of another.

JOHN B[illegible]

To Lieutenant-General Sir H. L. Smith-Dorrien, Commanding Aldershot.

GENERAL,—Appointed to your command last [illegible] you lost no time in giving practical proof of your faith that the British soldier knows how to respect his manhood and honour the uniform he wears. In a word, you suspended the order forbidding him to enter public-houses and withdrew the pickets which spied upon his movements in the public streets. Put upon his honour, he has justified himself and the Commanding Officer who trusted him so much so that you have again decided to dispense with the old regulation during the autumn manœuvres, and also to extend the limits within which passes may be granted when his duty is done. I need not tell you, General, that by these things you have won the hearts not only of the troops at Aldershot, but of the whole Army; for by this time you must have had ample proof of it. In neither are they likely to fail you, whatever your call to them be war or peace. On behalf of the Army I pay for, I [illegible] you.

JOHN B[illegible]

To Major Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., St. Martin's-le-Grand.

SIR,—I understand there is considerable dissatisfaction about your appointment as Secretary to the Post Office. This, however, does not appear to be due to your Oriental name, but to the fact that you have been employed in the Colonial service. For my part, I do not see why Government departments should be regarded as close preserves for the comatose persons who spend their lives crawling from desk to desk. At the Post Office new blood was urgently required.

JOHN B[illegible]

Dr. Frederick Cook.

Hope you are satisfied and that we shall now hear no more of Polar exploration. Anyhow, you have put that tiresome Shackleton man into the shade, and we must be thankful for small mercies.

BULL.

Sir Robert Peel, Bart.

So sorry to hear that the wicked Budget has compelled you to sell your land and reduce your charities. But isn't it almost high treason for *you* to become a Tariff Reformer?

BULL.

A STARTLING DISCOVERY.

("It happened one day about noon, going to see the inscription I had writ in the sand, I was exceedingly surprised with the print of a man's naked foot on the shore. I stood like one thunderstruck."—ROBINSON CRUSOE.)

CRUSOE (The Land Monopolist): "Is it possible that there's someone else on this island?"

IN THE CITY.

It is requested that all letters to be answered on the City pages be addressed to the City Editor.

Letters requiring an answer in the next issue must be received not later than Friday.

We shall be obliged to Secretaries of Insurance and other Companies if they will send us their reports when issued, and, from time to time, any other information which may be of public interest.

In no circumstances can we undertake the purchase or sale of securities on behalf of our readers.

THE LONDON GENERAL OMNIBUS COMPANY AND THE BUDGET.

It would not be easy to name a company with a long and honourable record, or, indeed, a company of any kind, which has had more difficult problems to deal with during the last few years of its existence than this one. Perhaps the most difficult position it has had to face was upon the advent of the motor 'bus, when it had either to give an enormous advantage to competitors on the road, or incur an immense outlay in obtaining new plant. As if the troubles consequent upon motor competition were not enough, the company now finds itself hit by the Budget in a way that may well prove fatal to it.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes to levy a tax of 3d. per gallon on petrol, but in the case of motor omnibuses and other commercial vehicles this tax will only be 1½d. per gallon. The total sum to be obtained, as estimated by Mr. Lloyd George, from this petrol tax is £60,000 per annum, and of this amount no less than £38,190, or 63.7 per cent., will be borne by the London General Omnibus Company.

Now we venture to say that that fact alone condemns the Chancellor's proposal. It cannot be just or expedient that a tax should be levied whose incidence is such that two-thirds of it will have to be paid by a single Company.

The London General Omnibus Company has sent a letter to members of Parliament explaining its position. In this connection they say there are three main objections to the tax so far as it concerns the Company, and these objections are as below :—

(1) Petrol is the raw material of the motor 'bus business, and to tax raw material is considered by all parties to be economically unsound.

(2) To select one particular portion of the passenger transport business of London for taxation while leaving its competitors (tubes, electric and other trams, suburban railways, etc.) free, is unjust in principle.

If a tax were imposed which would be applicable to all alike (such as a wheel tax or a percentage on receipts), although we may not like it, we could have no objection to it on principle.

(3) It is monstrously unfair to tax London motor 'buses for the purpose of making or mending country roads, which they do not and can never use.

Mr. Lloyd George may have an answer to these objections, but we cannot imagine one that would satisfy intelligent and impartial minds. Unfortunately Mr. Lloyd George does not post himself up as to the position of trades affected by his legislation. In reply to the Company's complaint made to him personally, he thinks he has said enough when he tells the directors that they must raise fares. If he knew anything about the business of the Company he would know that this suggestion is impracticable. What the Company suggests is that there should be an amendment exempting stage carriages from the tax, and we cannot understand why the Chancellor of the Exchequer should object to it.

THE STRAND HOTEL.

We have received the report of the directors to be presented to the shareholders at the second ordinary general meeting of this company, from which it appears that it is intended to open the hotel on the 14th inst. Warrants with interest on the 100,000 participating preferred ordinary shares issued in November, 1907, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, calculated from January 1st, 1909, to the date of opening the hotel, will be posted to the shareholders immediately thereafter. The sum required to meet these demands will be provided by Mr. Joseph Lyons and Mr. M. Gluckstein, in accordance with the terms of the prospectus.

This experiment of an up-to-date hotel to be run at rates that suit the pocket of the ordinary man will be watched with interest.

Why hasn't the Provincial Motor Cab Company issued its balance-sheet yet?

MARKET GOSSIP.

The events of the past week have not been of great importance.

Consols and Gilt-Edged Investments have been in demand owing to the continued ease of money.

Home Railways remain out of favour, which is not to be wondered at, when the traffics continue so poor. In spite of all the assurances of improving trade, and notwithstanding the finer weather, nearly every line reports a substantial decrease in receipts.

The Foreign Market has been firm, and many stocks show improvements, especially in the South American section.

The Foreign Railway Market has been moderately active, the principal movements being in the stocks of the Mexican Railway Company, the prices of which have advanced.

The Miscellaneous Market has given a good account of itself, and a considerable business has been done, more especially in armament, steel, and iron shares. Considerable interest has been aroused by the compulsory winding-up order made against the Palace Restaurants Company.

American Rails are scarcely worth mentioning, as the interest in them on this side is so small. It is sincerely to be hoped that the English speculator and investor will be content to only look on at the game and not take a hand in it. To play in American Railway stocks means sooner or later a certain loss.

Canadian Railways look firm, and should improve in view of the excellent crop reports from the Dominion

The Mining Market shows distinct signs of improvement, particularly in the Rhodesian Section, and Chartereds are being bought in influential quarters. The general improvement in the South African Market has induced some of the second-rate promoters to try their luck in palming off some of their rubbish on to the public by means of big advertisements in the daily Press and circulars. Among others we would mention the Mayblossom (formerly the Victory Lydenburg), and the Anglo-German Territories (mixed up in some strange way with the Orange River Estates). Both of these are being dealt in for special Settlement, and it is to be hoped that before any Settlement is granted by the Stock Exchange Committee they will thoroughly look into the methods by which these two concerns have been introduced to the market, thereby probably saving money for many who have been foolish enough to purchase shares.

West Australians look like recovering, the better class dividend-paying shares being in request.

West Africans continue to improve, and have every prospect of becoming prominent favourites in the Mining Market. Great care is necessary in the selection of investments in this market, as there are many doubtful ventures on offer. One specially to be avoided is the King's Treasury Gold Mines, the pedigree of which has already been given in these columns.

The Miscellaneous Mining Market provides no particular feature. Nile Valleys continue to fall, as they should and will do, in spite of the very optimistic puffs which have frequently appeared in the press.

Monday, 6 p.m.

Postscript.—Little can be added to what has already been said concerning markets. The finish up of the account and preparation for the new account—which, by the way, is of nineteen days' duration, and, therefore, has an evil reputation—have tended to restrict business. Consols are lower, and will be still lower, should the investment demand slacken. Home Railways are absolutely lethargic. Mines are in less demand, and some Kaffirs are lower owing, it is said, to the closing of a speculator's account who has overdealt in Copper. Rio Tinto shares have relapsed and should go lower. Americans have been practically a dead letter, owing to the two days' holiday in New York, thus showing how very small the interest in these is in this country. It is hard to believe that anyone over here will have the foolhardiness to buy American stocks at their present ridiculously inflated prices. If they do, they deserve to lose their money.

Canadian Railways remain steady, and should go better.

There is an apparently active market in Rubber Shares, but the shares are just as difficult to sell as to buy, and purchasers in this market would be well advised not to take more than they can pay for, as at any time they may find it difficult to realise.

FINANCIAL ENQUIRIES.

CIVIL SERVICE SCHOOL.—W. N. (Birmingham).—We have no information respecting this Hull School, and whether it would be wise for you to pay the fee asked. Can any of our readers give us information respecting the School?

[illegible], LIMITED.—J. W. (Thornton Heath).—Sell.

[illegible] COMMON.—F. P. (Sunderland).—It is quite likely. Indeed, the [illegible] of steel on the other side of the water declare that the quotation is going up to par. They say that the current quarter will show net earnings of 36 million dollars, and the last quarter of the year 48 million dollars, and that this showing will give dividends of 5 per cent., and higher [illegible] next year. There seems to be no limit to dividend predictions when a speculative crowd once gets intoxicated. We should not be surprised to [illegible] a 7 per cent. or 8 per cent. dividend when the Bulls are ready to [illegible] the public. Be on your guard.

[illegible] THEATRES CONSOLIDATED SHARES.—M. W. (Edinburgh).—We [illegible]

[illegible] MINING COMPANIES.—INTERESTED (Derby).—Do not touch either.

[illegible] HOUSE OF LONDON.—A. P. (Hornsey).—We really do not know [illegible] can do. If you put the matter in the hands of a solicitor and [illegible] him to take action, more likely than not they will plead the [illegible] A. H. W. (Bury).—Ditto.

[illegible] SHARES.—E. R. W. (East Twickenham).—We do not think there is [illegible] of much rise in any one of them, and the remark applies, too, [illegible] mining shares.

[illegible] WHITELEY, LIMITED.—VINDEX (London).—The answer to both questions [illegible] the affirmative.

[illegible] —WESTWARD Ho! (Bristol).—You put a lot of questions to us, [illegible] we must content ourselves with saying that we never recommend dealing [illegible]

[illegible] INDUSTRIAL BANK.—E. E. L. (London).—We cannot recommend it.

[illegible] (Birmingham).—Ditto.

[illegible] ANDREWS, LTD.—G. N. (Streatham).—We do not think you can [illegible] the Company to give the information you want, and we do not know [illegible] are to get your money back, unless you can induce somebody to [illegible] your shares.

[illegible] UNITED TRAMWAY DEBENTURES.—E. J. (Bristol).—We should sell. [illegible] is not likely to improve.

[illegible] STONE COLLIERY.—F. W. W. (Barnsley).—We should not accept [illegible]

WINNING £60.—G. M. (Moseley).—We think it the remotest of chances. [illegible] we tell you "the best way to obtain large profits with small capital," [illegible] Stock Exchange gambling. If you experiment you are much [illegible] to lose the money you risk than to add to your store.

[illegible] CASH REGISTER CO.—E. W. G. (Wimbledon).—We can only refer [illegible] what we have said on the subject in many previous issues. H. B. [illegible] (Cork).—Ditto.

[illegible] HOTEL, WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.—CONSTANT READER (Leytonstone).—[illegible] are not quoted, and we have not the information that would [illegible] us to advise you as to whether the 15,000 to which you refer would [illegible] a good investment."

[illegible] GENERAL TRADERS PROTECTION SOCIETY.—J. B. (Newport).—As at [illegible] advised, we know of nothing to the prejudice of this Society.

[illegible] MILLING, DREDGING, AND POWER CO.—S. M. P. (Belfast).—For [illegible] we know, the company may have the "water rights on the Klon-[illegible]" it says it has, but we advise you to have nothing to do with [illegible] We have not seen Messrs. Dakin and Co.'s pamphlet, but we are quite [illegible] would not alter the advice we give you. If the bonds were worth [illegible] at the price, these gentlemen would not offer you as a gift an equal [illegible] of shares. Why should they?

[illegible] CENTRAL RAILWAYS PROVIDENT SAVINGS BANK.—W. P. (Rother-[illegible]).—We assume this savings bank to have the Great Central behind it, [illegible] case your deposit is, of course, absolutely safe. (2) As to drawing [illegible] out, and putting it into house property, how can we advise you [illegible] knowing the kind of house property you propose to buy, and its [illegible]

[illegible], LIMITED.—J. McD. (Leith).—We do not advise you to buy the [illegible] at a price considerably below par."

[illegible] TO BROKERS.—FERGUS.—Have nothing to do with them. ANXIOUS [illegible].—Our information is that the people you name are fairly [illegible] but you would be very foolish to risk your money in Stock [illegible] transactions carried out through outside brokers. MRS. F. S. [illegible].—Do not be misled by advertisement statements. And do not [illegible] your money to the people you name. J. W. (Pontypridd).—We [illegible] CLYDE (Glasgow.)—Ditto. The French people you name would [illegible] genuine bonds, but they charge about 25 per cent. above market [illegible] J. W. (Belfast).—The firms you mention are neither better nor worse [illegible] of the rest against which we advise our readers. A. B. (Wal-[illegible]).—Have nothing to do with the firms you mention. C. R. A. [illegible].—We never recommend outside brokers.

[illegible] BONDS.—B. B. (Barnsbury).—We have no reason to doubt the [illegible] of the Paris brokers you name.

[illegible] EXCHANGE DEAL.—KANSAS (Pool).—If the price at which your [illegible] was exhausted was, as you say, 43¾, and the price has been down [illegible] it would seem pretty plain that the margin is exhausted. There may [illegible] something in your point about the firm undertaking not to close a client's [illegible] until he has been advised by wire; but we should treat the transac-[illegible] money lost, and in future steer clear of Stock Exchange gambling.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITIES SYNDICATE.—E. S. (Wolverhampton).—We do [illegible] understand your suggestion that there seems to have been some [illegible] in the liquidation. It should be unnecessary for us to say [illegible] would be impossible in any liquidation controlled by Mr. W. B. [illegible]. There was never any chance of your getting back any portion of the [illegible] you sent the syndicate, and Mr. Peat's letter of the 26th August [illegible] plain that even if there had been available assets you would not [illegible] participated. We return your papers.

[illegible] MINING COMPANIES.—C. B. (Munster Park).—You would be foolish [illegible] your money in any one of them.

[illegible] BANKET CO.—H. R. (Haverfordwest).—No, no such dividend [illegible] been paid.

[illegible] PURCHASE.—X. Y. Z. (Abertillery).—We should prefer another [illegible]

INSURANCE ENQUIRIES.

[illegible] ASSURANCE COMPANY.—T. E. (Edinburgh).—No, you certainly [illegible] levy execution against the National Standard Assurance Company [illegible] the strength of a judgment you have against the Progressive Assurance [illegible]. As to the latter, we think the advice that has been given to you [illegible], that it is not likely that you could get anything by taking [illegible] proceedings.

[illegible] BRITISH LIFE OFFICE, LIMITED.—J. K. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—It is a [illegible] office established in 1896.

CAPITAL AND COUNTIES INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.—ANXIOUS (Morley).—[illegible] all kinds of business except life and employers' liability. It is a [illegible] small concern, its subscribed capital being £35,707 in £1 shares, but [illegible] is paid up.

[illegible] INSURANCE COMPANY.—W. W. (Mountain Ash.)—For your purpose we [illegible] recommend the Prudential

MUTUAL LIFE AND CITIZENS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.—J. W. G. (Torquay).—[illegible] an office of the highest standing.

[illegible] AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE.—J. F. (Dublin.)—The Scottish Accident [illegible] and General Insurance Company is among the best of the accident [illegible] offices.

HEARTS OF OAK INSURANCE COMPANY.—H. F. F. (Plumstead).—We can only say that we agree generally with your criticism.

TWO INSURANCE COMPANIES.—P. C. (Bradford).—Both are first-class companies.

SELF HELP INSURANCE COMPANY.—COLLIER'S WIFE (Abercynon).—We do not know what you can do unless you threaten them with proceedings. We return your books and papers.

GENERAL FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—H. C. (Stepney).—The company is doing a large and rapidly increasing business, but we think other companies would be more suitable for the particular policy you want.

NATIONAL GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—J. S. H. (Sydenham).—The company was established in 1907, when it took over the business of the National Burglary Company founded five years earlier. Its authorised capital is £1,000,000, subscribed £193,333, in shares of £1, of which 5s. was called up on December 31st, 1908, representing £48,333. A dividend of 5 per cent. was declared for 1908.

THE EAGLE GLASS INSURANCE COMPANY.—F. B. (Brockley).—Have nothing to do with it.

EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.—H. C. T. (New Malden).—We prefer British offices.

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.—ACCIDENT (Brixton).—It all depends upon the terms of the policy. And why delay three years before making your claim?

THE UNIVERSAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—H. O. (Manchester).—We have read your letter with much interest, and we think you accurately describe the past history of the company, but our information leads us to the conclusion that recently there has been an improvement in the management, and we are assured that arrangements are likely to be made which will put the company upon a sound footing. Assuming these arrangements to be made, and sound and energetic management, the company may yet win for itself a good position in the insurance world.

LONDON EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW ASSURANCE.—ANXIOUS BEN.—We know of no sufficient reason why you should not continue your policy. The company transacts a large industrial business, and also ordinary life business.

SCOTTISH METROPOLITAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—H. B. (Grimsby).—Yes, the company transacts both life and accident business, and in the life department the premiums are considerably lower than the average rates; bonuses only vest when the accumulation of premiums at 4 per cent. equal the sums assured.

STATUS OF INSURANCE COMPANY.—LAWS (Shepherd's Bush).—It is a small company, and we should be inclined to advise you to clear out the business as it falls due.

INSURABLE INTEREST.—A LOVER OF J.B. (St. Leonards-on-Sea).—Your father could not demand the cancelment of the policy, but the Wesleyan and General might properly refuse to pay.

MUTUAL LIFE AND CITIZENS' ASSURANCE CO., LTD.—S. O. J. (Torquay).—Yes, it is a very sound Company.

PROVIDENT FREE HOMES COMPANY, LIMITED.—A. B. (Walsall).—You would be foolish to drop your payments. The company is sound and well managed.

UNITED KINGDOM TEMPERANCE AND GENERAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—C. D. R. (Dublin).—Yes, certainly the institution "is in a sound financial position."

BRITISH HOMES ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—ADMIRER (Oswestry).—We see no reason why you should not buy the certificate. The corporation is doing a sound and rapidly increasing business, and is under very sagacious management. J. W. H. (City Road).—Yes, it is a good company.

PROVINCIAL HOMES INVESTMENT COMPANY.—EXCELSIOR (Acton).—You can compel "the company to do what it undertakes to do in its written document," and no more. BLOOMFIELD (Polmont Station).—In our opinion the transfer of the business to the London and Provincial Assurance Company will be to the advantage of certificate holders in the Manchester company. F. J. B. (Middlesex).—We will have the matter looked into.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—A. B. C. (London).—Yes, this company is a perfectly sound concern. It is a large industrial and life assurance office.

THE COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY.—A. W. (Lydenburg, Transvaal).—We have enquired into your complaint as to the action of this company, and we do not see that you have any grievance. In June, 1905, the company (then the Union Assurance Society) were informed by their Cape Town branch that your policy and other papers had been stolen, and they replied that, subject to the usual declaration and agreement required by the company in such cases being signed by you, and the stamp of the new policy being paid, they would be prepared to issue a new policy, provided the premium due in April, 1905, remained unpaid until three months after the expiration of the days of grace. The company were informed in the following August that the premium in question had already been paid, and since that time they have had no further communication on the subject. The head office here does not know what was written to you, as all correspondence was conducted through their South African branch office, but it is not the case that if you had carried out their requirements you would have been unprotected in any way for a period of four months, as if death had occurred the claim would have been paid subject to the deduction of the overdue premium. The requirement in such cases that the premium when due shall remain unpaid for a specified period was a practice adopted by the Union Assurance Society with a view to provoking enquiry from any undisclosed holder of the policy. It was purely a measure of precaution, and did not affect the rights of the policy-holder in any way. In consequence of the transfer of the life business of the Union Life Assurance Society to the Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, it is no longer possible to carry out the procedure proposed by the Union in 1905 by issuing a new policy in place of the lost document. If you desire it, the company would, subject to a satisfactory declaration being obtained, and the premium becoming due in April next remaining unpaid as above mentioned, and no claims to the policy being in the meantime raised by any other party, issue you a declaration (with a copy of the policy annexed) to the effect that the policy is in force notwithstanding its loss. We would point out, however, that the loss of the policy does not affect the rights arising thereunder, but only creates a defect in the title, in respect of which an indemnity is usually required before any payment is made.

THE FIRST DUTCH INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.—G. S. (Brighton).—The business of this company is to insure persons who send money to State Lotteries against loss. It was founded in Holland in 1902, and established a branch in London last year. It has a monopoly from the State, and the principle upon which it operates is to issue policies to investors assuring them the same profits as they would receive were they to take tickets in the actual lottery, and yet to preserve for them the full value of the amount paid for the policy. For example, a person effects with the company a policy of insurance, for which a premium of £10 is paid either down or by instalments. This policy bears a number corresponding with a number of a ticket in the Netherlands State Lottery, and the insurance is that if this same number happens to be entitled to a prize in this lottery the company guarantees to pay as a profit on the policy bearing the same number one-twentieth of the amount as paid out by the Government on the winning ticket. If, however, this ticket has been drawn a blank, the holder of the policy bearing the corresponding number does not lose his money, but continues to be interested in all future drawings until he has received profits amounting to £1,000. Each year a certain number of fully paid up policies are redeemed by the company at their face value of £10, and the policy-holder whose policy is redeemed can either take the amount of his premium in cash, or he can take out a new policy, but under another number. The surrender value is 75 per cent. of the premium paid, and policies may be transferred from one person to another for a nominal charge of 2s. 6d.

THE EAGLE INSURANCE COMPANY.—A. H. D.—The Eagle is a proprietary company established as far back as 1807. It has a paid-up capital of £167,867 in shares of £5, of which 10s. has been paid. **The dividend and bonus for the last financial year was 6¾ per cent.**

AMONG THE LAWYERS.

THE POLICE AND PERJURY.

Our attention has been directed to the case of Mr. Alfred George Sapsworth, licensee of the Red Lion, Portland Street, Soho. Mr. Sapsworth was summoned before Mr. Denman at the Marlborough Street Police Court on September 1st for selling liquor to a drunken person, also for permitting drunkenness on his premises. There was no evidence in support of the charge other than that of the police. Mr. Denman had no difficulty in finding that an offence had been committed by the defendant, and fined him £10, with five guineas costs, a serious punishment in itself, made much more serious by the stigma attaching to the conviction. We are satisfied upon the information before us that Mr. Sapsworth was wrongfully convicted, and that the police won the case by means of gross misstatements, which ought to have been detected by Mr. Denman.

There is no question as to the state of the man who came into the public-house asking for liquor. He was drunk. But that is the only true statement in the police evidence. The facts of the case are these. At the time when the man entered the public-house the barman was serving in the private bar, and it was impossible for him to see everybody who entered by the four doors leading into it. Mr. Sapsworth himself was clearing glasses from the private bar and knew nothing of what had happened until the drunken man had been taken out of the house. When he came in he asked one of the four men sitting at one of the tables to give him a drink. They refused on the ground that he was drunk. In his evidence one of the police witnesses swore that the man was sitting at the table drinking with the other four. The defence called four independent witnesses. The first, John Armstong, of Delia Street, Earlsfield, said the man came into the bar and asked him for a drink, which he refused. There were only four drinks on the table, and they belonged to witness and his three friends. The man had only been in the house two minutes when the police arrived, and it was quite possible het barman did not see him enter. He was not served with anything. The witness and his friends showed the police their own glasses and told them that the man had had nothing in the house. Edmund Barter, of Holloway, gave corroborative evidence, as also did Alfred Hinds, an electric wireman living in Poland Street, Ernest Wolff a music engraver, of Harlesden, and Everard Vollrath, a tailor, of Hanover Court, Long Acre—the man who was fined for being drunk. Mr. Sapsworth, licensee of the house, swore that on the night in question he was in the private bar when the police entered, and the first he heard of the matter was when he was told they had taken a drunken man from his premises. He denied absolutely that the man had been served with drink.

Putting aside Mr. Sapsworth's evidence and that of the man who caused the trouble, here we have a number of independent witnesses with no interest of any sort or kind in swearing to anything but the truth, coming forward to testify, first, that the man did not have any drink supplied to him in the house, and next, that he was not in it more than two minutes, and against this evidence there was nothing but that of an inspector of police and a sergeant. But the evidence of the prosecution was sufficient to satisfy Mr. Denman, who is one of those magistrates who is able to persuade himself that anything the police swear is true, and who pay little or no attention to evidence that goes against the police, however convincing that evidence may be to other minds.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

We have received from Mr. Joseph Collinson a reprint of an article contributed by him to the *Law Times* on the subject of Imprisonment for Debt, from which we take the following:—

> The Statute does not require evidence of means to pay to be given until an application to commit the debtor to prison is made, so that no evidence of means seems to be required (or we believe is required by some of the County Court Judges) before making an order to pay. The debtor may thus have disobeyed an order of the Court before any inquiry is made as to his means to pay. This is a position in which he ought not to be placed.
>
> The Statute only requires proof of the debtor's ability to pay the debt or instalment in respect of which he has made default, and does not direct any inquiry to be made as to his other debts, if any. The accused may have other and more pressing debts, and may be quite unable to meet them all. The landlord may be threatening to turn him out of doors, or to distrain his few articles of furniture if the rent be not paid. The baker may have refused to give him any more credit, and so on; but if he pays any money in priority to the creditor who has got the instalment order he goes to prison he must go. Such a procedure is entirely opposed to our Bankruptcy Laws. These laws often regard payment to a particular creditor by an insolvent debtor as a fraud, although the debt may be justly due. All such payments interfere with equal distribution of assets, which a man should aim at when he finds that he cannot pay in full.
>
> Proof of ability to pay at any date subsequent to the judgment or order is sufficient, not merely to obtain a committal order for the debt, but for an instalment which may not have accrued due for many years afterwards.
>
> The conditions of proof are by no means so strict as in a criminal case, and there is no express provision for giving the debtor the benefit of any reasonable doubt as to his means, and as he is usually undefended, the chance of a miscarriage of justice are considerably greater than if he were accused of a crime.
>
> The Statute makes no provision to restrict the number of imprisonments that may be imposed for non-payment of different instalments of the same debt, nor, as already remarked, does it require any proof that the debtor has the means of paying the instalment for which he is sent to prison at any time after that instalment became due. These imprisonments do not discharge the debt, which is on the contrary, increased by costs.

Let us hope that the Government will soon see its way to act upon the recommendations of the committee to which we referred in a recent issue.

JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS.

We have received the following:—

> I beg to enlist your sympathy for the hard case of a class of women who suffer under the unjust law relating to Judicial Separations, and ask you to take up this question. I have had a Maintenance Order from a police court, and never received the money, nor seen my husband for many years, and yet I am not allowed to have a divorce though there were grounds for one. My husband is in a well-paid profession, and can live as he pleases by keeping our knowledge.
>
> We of the middle class live very isolated lives, [illegible] a mere pittance earned with difficulty, and yet the Bishops think there is no need of freer divorce. I am worse off than a widow, as many persons are afraid to have dealings with a separated woman.

How long is the country to remain disgraced by a law that works untold hardship upon the weak and suffering and is, as the late President of the Divorce Court has so frequently affirmed, a direct incentive to immorality?

LEGAL ANSWERS.

Right to Property.—Justice (London.—A brother is not liable to maintain his brother's widow or her children, and the grandchildren will take their dead father's share.

Widow's Claim to Property.—Constant Reader.—The marriage would be deemed to be valid until set aside, and in the event of the man dying the widow would claim as personal representative. In such cases the man should make a will.

Libel or Slander.—S. P. G.—The statements are an actionable libel and you can bring an action for damages.

Betting on a Race Field Selective.—An open field has been held not to be a "place" where betting is prohibited within the meaning of the Acts against betting. You can allow betting if you think fit, and the police cannot stop it.

Will.—North.—A codicil must be signed by two witnesses who both see the the testator sign. You can will the shares by mentioning them specifically, but it is always better not to do this, as sometimes companies are reconstructed, and the specific bequest would not then hold good.

Estate in America.—W. W. If you have particulars of the advertisement you should write to the advertisers, and if you fail in this you may write to the American Legation, 123 Victoria Street, S.W., and ask them to inform you of the address of the proper officer in America who can give you the information.

Solicitor's Examination.—J. M.—You can get full information on application to the Incorporated Law Society, Chancery Lane, E.C., as to the various examinations for admission as a solicitor.

Loss of Property in Africa—Swansea Boy.—We doubt if the company are responsible for the loss of the trunk, and the best course we can suggest is to apply to a solicitor in Cape Town to make inquiries and take steps to recover it. If you left the trunk in the care of the manager without agreeing to pay him, you could not make him responsible. You cannot claim salary, as you were unable to complete the contract.

"IDEAL BUSINESS GOVERNMENT."

Our £1,000 Reward.

It is quite impossible to make any definite announcement as to the result of this Competition for at least another fortnight. The number of coupons received is phenomenal.

NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE

£248,720 PAID TO CLIENTS • RESERVE FUND £30,000

Some time ago we published in "John Bull" the account of a client, who, starting with £6, received £4,840 (since increased to £5,600) from us. In a later issue we printed the separate accounts of 5 other clients who have been paid £944, £936, £593, £279, and £243. In last issue we furnished the accounts of 6 other clients who between them have received £2,729 in the following amounts, £344, £391, £318, £374, £872, and £430.

To-day we publish for the first time, the amounts paid to 5 other clients.

Cheques.	J. W.	Amounts
B 89,001	—	£11 17 6
B 91,410	—	9 3 0
B 91,664	—	6 0 0
653	—	7 6 0
847	—	6 0 0
919	—	5 10 0
49	—	9 0 0
129	—	52 0 0
193	—	20 0 0
277	—	8 0 0
433	—	10 11 5
C 93,406	—	6 10 0
C 94,945	—	75 19 6
1,290	—	6 0 0
1,540	—	81 3 10
2,802	—	5 15 0
3,904	—	8 0 0
3,930	—	12 10 0
5,399	—	100 0 0
5,662	—	15 5 10
5,962	—	10 0 0
7,333	—	14 12 6
7,335	—	38 0 0
7,432	—	38 6 1
7,666	—	13 0 0
7,839	—	17 2 8
7,991	—	29 12 6
8,028	—	6 9 2
8,554	—	19 12 6
8,686	—	7 10 0
9,046	—	12 0 0
9,152	—	16 2 0
9,573	—	20 15 0
9,900	—	7 16 2
10,170	—	10 5 0
10,299	—	6 0 0
10,387	—	16 0 0
10,753	—	21 5 0
10,867	—	21 10 0
11,114	—	19 5 0
11,482	—	13 0 0
12,183	—	19 15 7
12,245	—	20 0 0
12,294	—	21 15 0
12,418	—	10 0 0
12,500	—	18 15 0
12,519	—	6 15 0
12,588	—	15 0 0
14,065	—	10 10 0
Car. forward		£932 10 4

Brought forward		£932 10 4
14,163	—	18 15 0
14,325	—	12 15 0
14,393	—	16 0 0
14,558	—	27 19 2
14,575	—	11 6 0
14,638	—	9 10 0
14,649	—	10 10 0
Total	—	£1054 1 6

Cheques	W.T.	Amounts.
B 90,392	—	£21 9 8
B 90,412	—	86 0 0
C 20,925	—	5 0 0
C 21,182	—	25 15 9
C 21,216	—	3 0 0
C 21,889	—	12 0 0
2,234	—	5 0 0
2,643	—	31 5 0
6,809	—	45 10 0
6,824	—	20 4 9
7,243	—	16 0 0
7,423	—	10 0 0
8,167	—	65 11 10
8,573	—	68 17 6
8,741	—	10 0 0
8,769	—	11 5 6
8,909	—	17 19 11
9,107	—	32 10 0
9,291	—	12 0 0
9,712	—	21 5 0
10,479	—	25 0 0
10,522	—	66 0 0
10,830	—	20 0 0
10,942	—	12 0 0
11,171	—	9 1 1
11,678	—	26 0 0
11,723	—	14 5 6
11,865	—	9 18 9
11,944	—	33 13 0
12,141	—	20 0 0
12,460	—	8 8 9
12,723	—	22 0 0
13,935	—	21 6 3
14,765	—	28 15 9
Total	—	£949 3 0

Cheques.	W. P.	Amounts.
C 21,027	—	£13 15 9
Car. forward		£13 15 9

Brought forward		£13 15 9
C 21,027	—	13 15 0
C 21,789	—	9 0 0
688	—	18 5 4
17	—	10 0 0
181	—	7 15 0
C 63,377	—	10 0 0
4,241	—	71 10 0
10,332	—	9 15 0
11,430	—	13 15 0
11,806	—	8 10 0
31,539	—	28 0 0
12,323	—	14 6 9
14,112	—	11 11 6
14,149	—	15 0 0
14,162	—	22 10 0
14,282	—	6 0 0
14,549	—	28 15 0
14,689	—	11 15 0
Total	—	£321 19 4

Cheques.	J. L.	Amounts.
C 21,165	—	£8 0 0
C 54,917	—	38 0 0
1,287	—	49 0 0
1,399	—	38 10 0
1,507	—	23 0 0
1,608	—	9 9 9
1,639	—	31 6 0
1,837	—	10 6 6
1,856	—	31 0 0
2,022	—	41 15 0
2,253	—	15 0 0
2,780	—	6 0 0
3,576	—	23 10 9
4,062	—	8 10 0
4,768	—	10 5 0
5,290	—	9 15 6
5,873	—	8 0 0
5,968	—	27 17 4
6,163	—	8 8 6
6,534	—	16 8 0
6,551	—	6 7 6
6,823	—	17 9 4
6,979	—	7 0 6
7,348	—	8 0 6
7,515	—	10 6 10
7,782	—	10 0 6
8,537	—	9 6 6
9,487	—	7 0 0
Car. forward		£557 16 9

Brought forward		£557 16 9
11,027	—	18 15 0
12,370	—	20 0 0
12,562	—	28 4 3
14,147	—	8 4 0
14,469	—	50 0 0
Total	—	£683 0 0

J. B. Cheques.		Amounts.
C 21,171	—	£6 0 0
C 22,015	—	10 7 1
C 22,050	—	12 0 0
400	—	24 0 0
C 63,387	—	9 9 0
1,524	—	10 0 0
1,554	—	16 5 0
2,018	—	22 0 0
2,773	—	8 10 0
3,416	—	18 15 0
3,544	—	6 0 0
3,639	—	12 0 0
4,198	—	7 0 0
4,482	—	13 0 0
4,628	—	7 10 0
4,637	—	12 0 0
2,867	—	7 15 0
5,243	—	23 18 2
5,860	—	6 0 0
6,223	—	11 8 3
6,382	—	7 0 0
6,782	—	9 15 0
7,277	—	6 5 0
7,340	—	6 8 9
7,473	—	8 10 0
8,051	—	8 0 0
8,126	—	14 0 2
8,210	—	14 15 0
8,461	—	13 5 0
9,183	—	6 10 0
9,686	—	15 10 0
10,154	—	18 15 0
10,345	—	22 10 0
10,581	—	27 11 10
10,883	—	13 0 0
11,517	—	34 15 0
11,762	—	12 0 0
12,651	—	9 5 0
14,480	—	24 0 0
Total	—	£515 13 6

The above sums, and 10,500 similar amounts, were made by clients starting with £6 and upwards in a few weeks.

"JOHN BULL" (Feb. 9) in one out of three notices says, "*If you win, you will be paid.*"

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Please forward me full particulars of how, with £6 and upwards, the above sums were made, together with a list of upwards of 10,500 other cheques, etc.

NAME .....

(Rev., Mr., Mrs. or Miss.)

ADDRESS IN FULL.....

IMAGINARY INTERVIEWS.

By WALTER MOORE.

XVI.—LORD ROSEBERY.

Having pursued Lord Rosebery from the Villa Rosebery, Posillipo, Naples, to Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh; from Edinburgh to Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard; and from thence to the Durdans, Epsom, I at last ran him to earth at 38, Berkeley Square, where I was immediately shown into his presence.

"As an interviewer," I said, with some heat, "I find the multiplicity of your country seats a great inconvenience. I have been chasing you for exactly a week."

"That is nothing," returned Lord Rosebery, smiling; "two of the principal political parties have been chasing me for years."

"Well, one of them seems to have captured you at last," I observed. "I see you are to deliver a speech against the Budget at Glasgow on the 10th."

"Yes," replied Rosebery; "I have succumbed to the pressing invitation of an influential body of Glasgow business men. They seem to think that my intervention may help to stave off the threatened fiscal revolution."

"I take it that such an intervention as this will be entirely to your liking?"

"I admit it," responded Lord Rosebery. "As you doubtless are aware, since my retirement, somewhat piqued, from office in 1895, I have amused myself with literature and an occasional sudden and startling descent into the political arena. My leisurely literary labours have afforded me considerable pleasure, but nothing to be compared with the rich enjoyment that has attended my meteoric interventions from time to time in the more weighty questions of the moment, such as Home Rule, Protection, Free Trade, the Navy, and, more recently, the revolutionary Budget of Mr. Lloyd George, and the Colonial Press Conference."

"But," I remarked, "whilst the sensation to which your various utterances have given rise may have been extremely gratifying to yourself, do you not think that a career of destructive criticism is somewhat unprofitable?"

"Well, perhaps it is. And, what is more, I think I can say, without calling down upon my head the charge of vanity, that my abilities are of a sufficiently high order to warrant my taking a more practical and positive part in the affairs of my country."

"Let me persuade you to do so," I urged.

Lord Rosebery reflected a moment. "There certainly is something in the idea," he resumed; "and, to tell the truth, I feel that I have acted the part of a twentieth-century Jeremiah long enough. I feel that my country has a right to expect something more from me than an occasional historical essay or peripatetic speech."

"I am delighted to hear you express such sentiments," I declared. "God, chance, and a sequence of favouring circumstances have endowed you with considerable gifts, and weighted you with corresponding responsibilities. It is only right that you should study to use the one and assume the other for the benefit of your country."

"At the same time," murmured Rosebery, musingly, "I rather shrink from the turmoil of an active political life. I have grown to love the 'lonely furrow,' and it is decidedly easier to maintain a reputation for wisdom *out* of the House of Lords rather than *in* it."

"Perhaps your reputation for wisdom does not stand so high as you imagine," I ventured to say. "The public willingly admit your versatility. But, at the same time, they feel that it is possible for great powers to be dissipated in too many directions. They read your speeches with attention, whether the subject thereof be the 'armed hush' of Europe, or cottage gardening. They like, also, to read of your success from time to time on the Turf. But there remains an intelligent minority who feel that you well could take a more optimistic view of Britain's future, and a more active part in her political affairs."

"I am gratified by your statement," returned Lord Rosebery. "You have re-awakened in me the desire to take office again. I understand that JOHN BULL is in favour of a 'Business Government.' May I offer my services for the post of Prime Minister?"

"Certainly. Competition is a good thing. But the success of your candidature will depend a great deal upon your speech at Glasgow."

"I will be particularly careful," said Lord Rosebery.

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"LUCANA"
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ARE A REVELATION. They are delicious in flavour, of Delightful Aroma, and Harmless on account of their Absolute Purity. Their charm never fails; they are acclaimed everywhere as the—

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100	50	20	100	50	25
4/9	2/6	1/-	6/-	3/-	1/6

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"IN THE AIR."

NOTES ON AVIATION.

By W. PARKER.

England's Prospective Aerial Meeting.

Rheims has caused a sudden awakening, and now all are alert on the problem of organising similar meetings—Lancashire, ever thoroughly alive, has come into the arena first. The Blackpool representatives met with a good reception at Rheims in their overtures, and the terms offered are liberal, viz.: £400 for any six aviators (£2,400 in all) who will enter and bring their machines. In addition to this, it is probable that £5,000 may be allotted for prizes by the time arrangements are completed. The best of good wishes go with the sagacious promotors!

The Aero Club's Co-operation.

Very willingly and promptly the Aero Club has lent the weight of its authority to the forthcoming meeting, and its official stamp will give a prestige to the event which is indispensable. We may not be able to realise a Rheims rendezvous immediately in England, but the spirit of emulation is contagious, and the autumn is not yet too far gone to promote more than one of these unique and educational sporting events.

One of the "Lessons" of Rheims.

All sorts of deductions have been drawn from the experiences of the Semaine d'Aviation, but to humbly submit one myself I should say the comparative safety of flight was very clearly proved by that notable event. Where were the appalling accidents which many people predicted? Not there. There were failures in plenty, but in no case any real disasters. I have never seen mortal man eat a better luncheon than M. Blériot did after his accident the other morning. There was a slight scar on his forehead, over which his rather lank hair fell à la Disraeli, but no evidences of breakdown or suffering were to be found on that strong, expressive face. Another man was running him hard for speed—too hard, and had, indeed, taken the Gordon Bennett Cup, which it was his ardent ambition to win—but he was neither physically nor mentally "broken up" by an accident which reads as terrible as it could well be. No, the aeroplane is a docile bird in a master-hand, and in varying degree we shall all find it out before long—all of us, at least, who are on the right side of fifty, and the others are generally rich enough to afford motors as a compensation.

An Anglo-French "Deal."

I learn on good authority that one of the greatest of the French aeroplane companies and the representative of an English syndicate have been putting their heads together, though whether their hands have met over the concluding bottle which clinches all bargains in France, I cannot yet say. This with a view to securing the British rights. The history of the motor-car is to be repeated, and no one can say that both parties are not justified—the French in selling the results of their wonderful brains and courage, and the English in recognising that there is a commercial value in aeroplaning, even though it is still in the months of its precocious infancy. Wild horses will not drag the name from me, but you all know him. W. lets out no secrets!

London to Manchester.

It is now only a question of a short time before the splendid prize offered by the *Daily Mail* for this flight will be fought for and won—Latham's 96 miles and Farman's 112 would make short work of the distance, and there is no reason why they should not do three times what they have accomplished with such ease once. Three hops of a hundred miles and ten thousand English pounds at the further end! Oh, that I had the wings of a—— It would be invidious to name any particular machine, but the chances are that——[No prophecies here!—Ed. JOHN BULL.]

The First Aerial Fine.

Aeroplane v. Dirigible. The pilot of the beautiful "Zodiac" was fined £4 for usurping the aerial right-of-way of Delagrange at historic and amazing Rheims. It was not exactly a vulgar police-court affair, but the International rules stipulate that you must keep out of your brother's way when in the sky, and this the "Zodiac" failed to do. One must fervently hope that this is not the beginning of worse things. A speed limit of 100 m.p.h. would be a rank nuisance to Stock Exchange aviators anxious to spend the week-end at Johannesburg.

Aviation for Ireland.

The suggestion that an aero meeting could be held at the Curragh is well worth consideration. The broad plain has a good surface—quite as good as Rheims, and the racecourse there would need little alteration to turn it into a fine aerodrome. The turnstiles could be trusted to revolve nearly as fast as the propellers of the machines, for Irishmen love sport as few others do. Mr. R. J. Macredy, the indefatigable, has hit on a good idea. Who will say a word in Parliament? Mr. T. M. Healy could rise well to the occasion. Or, why not Mr. John Redmond, who is already a past-master of the arts of flight in the honourable Pickwickian or rhetorical sense!

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THE HURLY BURLY.

HOW I DISCOVERED THE NORTH POLE.

BY THEODORE DAHLE.

Purchasing an evening paper on this, the second day of September, 1909, I am somewhat startled to notice that a physician of New York, Dr. Frederick Cook, writes a thrilling account of how he discovered the North Pole on April 21st, 1908. While I do not wish to throw any doubts on the veracity of any gentleman with a home in the United States, I desire to state that I discovered the North Pole several years ago.

I started from the East India Docks in the good ship *Munchausen* on April 1st, 1903, reaching Cape Columbia on Christmas Day of the same year. There I found sixteen cans of corned beef, a table knife, a stone of potatoes, a case of eggs, and 30 tallow candles, with five dogs, a motor car, an airship, and three Eskimos. As somebody had lost the sparking plug of the motor car, and there was a large hole in the airship, I decided to proceed due north on foot with the dogs, the Eskimos, and the food. It was now the depth of winter. As far as the eye could see there was nothing but ice ahead, some of the pieces being as big as a shilling and others larger than eighteen pence. I kicked the dogs and told the Eskimos to lead on across the white wastes into the trackless unknown.

For five days we tramped forward, singing songs of home to speed our frost-bound feet. We made at this time as much as fifteen miles a day. By this time our food supplies were exhausted, for we had consumed the three dogs and one Eskimo, and there was nothing to eat except ice. I therefore killed another Eskimo and pressed on. Every day the weather became colder. As after ten days march my thermometer showed 83 degrees below zero, Cent., we commenced gnawing at the tallow candles to keep us warm. It was very dark about now, and I knew that at any moment we might run up against one of the ice mountains which we knew were heading towards us on the drifting floes. We did not therefore eat the wicks, but when I commanded my chief Eskimo to light up I found that the ass had lost all the matches. Being hungrier than ever, I informed him that he had better at once arrange his earthly affairs, as I intended to kill him and eat him, which I proceeded to do almost immediately.

The majestic northern lights now flashed their radiant beams across the frozen solitudes. By taking observations with my trusty theodolite and sextant I calculated we were within 168 miles of the boreal datir. I called across the flashing ice fields and purpled snows to test whether anybody was about. The only answer was the echo of my own voice. For six more days we pressed forward across the silent tracts. My sufferings were indescribable. My whiskers and moustache were frozen into one solid block of ice, weighing 9 lb. 6 oz., the frozen mass extending down my throat as far back as the epiglottis, so that I could neither breathe nor eat what remained of the Eskimo I had killed a few days before.

Then as by a miracle the sun came out and thawed my whiskers and the ice in my throat. With the ability to eat came strength. Again I led the way undaunted by the endless fields of ever-shifting ice, which shifted so rapidly that when I went to sleep at night I never knew where I should wake up in the morning. Ten days' further travelling, with all the dogs and the Eskimos killed and eaten, brought me to within six miles five furlongs of the Pole. The thought that I should soon be within the three miles limit bore up my weary, stiff, frostbitten limbs. But the solitude and the pain were terrible, and I doubted as I dragged myself snow-blind through the chilling, terrifying mists hanging over this untrodden ice land which led me to my glorious goal whether I should be able to stand the climate any longer. "Shall I ever reach that Pole?" I gasped time and time again.

On, on, on I tramped, and at 7.30 o'clock on the morning of July 10th, 1904, my rapturous eyes saw the Pole stuck in the ground about a mile away. Then, alas, I realised I could walk no farther. Famished and bootless, with my clothes torn and worn down to my shirt and with the icy wind whistling through the holes, I crawled foot by foot to the Pole, and seizing it in my arms, hugged it to my breast in a paroxysm of joy. At that moment I heard a knock at the bedroom door. Mary Jane had come to awaken me for breakfast.

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THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. CLEMENT SCOTT.

"MADAME X."

Unquestionably there is good stuff in Alexandre Bisson's French drama, done into English by John Raphael and presented at the Globe Theatre last week by Charles Frohman and Henry W. Savage.

In France it was Jane Hading who acted the character of Jacqueline Fleuriot, the foolish wife who, not content with the love of her little son and devoted husband, left home and sought variety in the arms of a lover, and was driven from the home she once adorned when her lover being dead, and hearing the boy was ill, she returned to ask forgiveness for her folly.

In England it is Lena Ashwell who appears as Madame X., the wretched woman around whom the French author's powerful and intense story is woven; and, strange as it may be, you cannot get away from the fact that fallen, disgraced and degraded as she is, having sunk lower and lower as years roll on, we see Jacqueline in a fifth-rate hotel at Bordeaux living with a common blackmailing ruffian, trying to forget the hideousness of her existence by numbing her brain with deadly drugs, you still feel a wonderful sympathy for her—and why? Because to err is human.

It may be sad, it may wring your very heartstrings and cause you hot tears to stream down your cheeks with pain, but it is human—it is a touching, unexaggerated tale that M. Bisson has told, and the despairing cry of the broken, crushed woman as she stands with her white pinched face in the dock of the Bordeaux Assize Court and learns for the first time that she is being defended by her own son—the little one she deserted twenty years ago—is about the most pathetic touch of nature I have heard on the stage for many a long day.

The agony of the woman's shame is pitiable, her dread lest the boy may ever know what she has been fills you with infinite pity, and the final scene where the poor tortured soul finds peace in death after clasping her beloved Raymond to her breast, is indescribable in its pathos and intensity.

Such a character as Madame X. is almost actress proof, though I venture to think Miss Ashwell's tone is too harsh and unnatural when she is asked by the Judge if she has anything to say in her defence. Somehow her voice jarred at this moment; otherwise the performance is admirable. So is that of Sydney Valentine as the husband, Louis Fleuriot, and of Arthur Wontner, Raymond, the son of Madame X.

Alexandre Bisson's play is bound to be a success in this country, where the people so love and appreciate anything human, and Madame X. is bound to appeal to the hearts and understanding of all.

"ARSÈNE LUPIN."

How a smart author like Francis de Croisset—who has given us such delightful little comedies as, for instance, "The Marriage of Kitty" and "The Freedom of Suzanne"—could be guilty of turning out so feeble an imitation of "Raffles" as "Arsène Lupin" is quite incomprehensible.

From M. de Croisset's point of view, there was perhaps method in his madness, for "Arsène Lupin" was written whilst the English "Raffles," done into French, was drawing all Paris to the Theatre Réjane, and at a time, mind you, when the majority of the Parisian theatres were losing money hand over fist. So that M. de Croisset—a quick and versatile dramatist—commissioned by an enterprising manager to write "a sort of 'Raffles' comedy, only stronger," is comprehensive in this "all-gold" age.

But, unfortunately, "Arsène Lupin" is not stronger, but decidedly weaker than Mr. Hornung's detective play which filled the Comedy Theatre to overflowing for so many months; and has the fault—which is almost a crime to lay at the door of a French author—of being badly constructed.

The first two acts are perfect pandemonium; characters rush in and out without advancing matters in the least; doors and windows are mysteriously opened and shut without any reason, and that air of mystery and excitement which held one breathless in "Raffles" doesn't exist in "Arsène Lupin."

The whole thing is unconvincing, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Mr. E. W. Hornung have nothing to fear from their French rivals at this kind of work.

In a play of the "Arsène Lupin" description—which strikes a false note from the very moment the curtain rises—the actors have but little chance, for they are never real—nothing but artificial stage puppets; but Mr. Gerald du Maurier and Miss Alexandra Carlisle do all that is possible with the weak and thankless characters written for them.

Do any of our readers know anything of Arthur Anderson Stubbs, trading as the Overseas Compendium Company, of 21, Cannon Street, Manchester?

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PAT-A-CAKE

They're Peek Frean's

JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

By Mrs. Bull.

The Allurements of Swimming.

While it is doubtless an excellent thing to have a hobby, the fascinations of swimming carry some of its *devotées* beyond the bounds of reasonableness. There are some ladies who steadily seek the delights of the swimming-bath five or six times a week; some even think nothing of going twice in a day—morning and evening. I heard one such enthusiast describing her recent Continental holiday; apparently nothing had seemed of so much importance or so much interest to her as the swimming accommodation at the various cities she visited.

Diving is certainly sport in which the modern mermaid can compete on equal terms with the merman—her brother. It does not call for great strength; what it needs is a certain amount of agility and a vast deal of nerve and courage. It is this demand that it makes upon the nerve force and the moral qualities, that makes companionship and friendly "bucking-up" of such great value. Thus it is not surprising to hear of the rapidly growing membership of the "Ladies' Diving Association." Good, bad, and indifferent divers join, and they all help one another splendidly.

The Winning of Medals.

The Association has a rather ingenious arrangement for the winning of medals. Certain competent members are chosen as official judges. One of these faithfully attends at any bath where the Club meets, and thus any member can go through the requisite dives and be duly judged. If at the end of the year she has gained a certain proportion of marks, she is granted the proficiency medal—the first step towards the Association's gold and silver medals. The set dives for the proficiency medal consist of an ordinary dive from the bank, a running dive, two more at varying heights, and finally a voluntary dive—anything the fancy of the competitor suggests.

Certainly there is no better training for cool, calm courage and stern self-mastery than high diving, while it is often so graceful that the spectators thereof find themselves exclaiming "Oh-h-h!" as a crowd does when fireworks go off. Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson, the ex-champion of the Bath Club, is really a magnificent and daring diver. A few sceptics who hear of her carrying all before her in open competitions have half suspected that the young lady's high social position had not been without its influence. But the ladies of the Diving Association declare "to a man" that, as competent critics, they are satisfied that Lady Constance honestly deserves all she wins.

Smart Sporting Array.

A feature of the new shooting costumes this year is leather dyed exactly the same shade as the tweed or serge. One sees an occasional contrast; for instance, a Norfolk coat and skirt of olive green cheviot had a deep band round the edge of the skirt, also revers to the coat, of bright tan leather; another of dull green serge had strappings and buttons of rich dark crimson. Of course, leather round the edge of a skirt destined to plough through bogs, if needful, and certainly through tearing undergrowth, is almost necessary, but never before has it been so lavishly used as a decoration for the other parts of the costume. Since the introduction of motors and the demand for prepared leather for ladies' motor-garments, leather manufacturers have had fresh vistas opened before them, and have not been slow to seize the opportunity. The most alluring and becoming of leather hats in any colour and shape imaginable can be got, and now the finest, most pliable, quality in the leather line is being utilised to build knickers for wear under shooting skirts.

The Growth of Beauty.

Really honest Early Victorian people will tell you nowadays that there are somehow more pretty women in the world than there used to be. Of course all relics of that age are not honest, or else the past has merged for them into "The perfect star they saw not when they moved therein." But, on the whole, the elders admit this truth. And yet the reason seems to be simple enough—more people want to be pretty, hence the result. And I believe this end can be attained with little more than the genuine desire and a measure of intelligence, quite apart from obnoxious "make-ups" or glaring hair dyes. Take the hair, for instance. There probably never was a time when it was more easy for the plainest woman to look well as regards her coiffure, and yet how many yet remain victims to the idea that their individual case is hopeless. Again and again you will hear them say "O, but my hair is constitutionally thin," or "My hair always did break off at the ends," or something limp of that sort; when all the time all that the hair requires is proper treatment, by a decent hairdresser, with tonics and a few singeings and shampooings. Nowadays these courses of hair-treatment are so cheap that one wonders how the woman with "scratty" hair-dressing manages to exist at all, and one can only suppose that she does so because she is prejudiced against any attempts at self-reform as being concessions to mere "vanity." The same woman, by the bye, would not think it vanity to attend to her nails, or even her teeth. One rather wonders why you may cultivate and take care of one part of your person and not of another. But the determined Puritan is nothing if not illogical. Meanwhile the larger world is growing prettier.

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Does Lord Rosebery think he can Budge-it?
Did Dr. Cook "go up the Pole" when he reached it?
Has he really had an ice time?
Isn't the Sultan Mulai Hafid getting too "shirty"?
Does Kent owe the County Cricket Championship to a Blythe display?
Are matters at The Oval all square?
Did M. Bleriot's aeroplane catch fire because the pace was too hot?
Isn't the White City a very "imposing" place?
Why didn't Colonel Cody pay Rheims a "flying" visit?
Will Germany's super-*Dreadnought* be manned by supermen?
Is a play a work?
Is the proposed encouragement of singing an attempt to raise the voice of the Army and Navy?
If he has to resign his seat, won't it make Alexander Crosser?

"Made Healthy by Law," reads an *Express* headline. It makes most of us sick.

Joshua Bee-Tapp was among the applicants for medical relief at Fulham recently. We hope he was not turned off.

Speaking of the Chinese pork, Mr. Burns says, "If it is good it ought to go into consumption." Now we know why the good die young.

Two teams of women cricketers are to appear at Olympia. Fair-skinned creatures.

"The easiest thing in life is finding fault," says A. J. Hobson. Yes, and it is always someone else's.

"Business is like a game," says Mr. S. L. Nathan. Yes, but you mustn't play at it.

A Primitive Methodist chapel at Stamford, Lincs., has been converted into a skating rink. It will still cater for backsliders.

"A House of Lies," just published, doubtless contains some truth stories.

Mr. Wm. Younger, once a Unionist M.P., has become a Liberal. Mr. Younger is older now.

"Paupers at Bowls," reads a heading. We hope there was something good in them.

The *Daily Chronicle* states that Dr. Cook's real name is Koch. Evidently the "Koch of the North."

The Norwich man who has collected 700,000 postage stamps in 16 years must be a man of letters.

"Marriage makes all the difference," says J. E. Patterson. And most of the differences. And three cheers for the difference.

Miss Marie Corelli says she is not in favour of women's suffrage. The movement will, of course, now die away.

The Battersea man whose death was attributed to excessive cigarette smoking, evidently found life too much fag.

"The confirmed bachelor trembles before matrimony," says *Black and White*. But he trembles more after.

According to *Chambers's Journal*, cold water is a superb tonic. Something in it, Jim Crow says.

"The Girl with the Green Eyes" is the name of a new play. She must be a jade.

One of the prizes at a recent beauty show was an attractive young widow. The "booby" prize, perhaps.

The widened Blackfriars Bridge will be the best lighted bridge in London. They must change its name.

The annual report of Westminster public libraries states that only four books were lost during the year. A good return.

"Bomb by Post," reads a headline. Shocking news.

"An Honest Man" appears under the description "New Fiction." Of course.

Employees of several City firms have had to take a holiday because their offices were burnt out. "It's an ill wind, etc."

A Miss Goodson has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music. A good son should make a good fellow.

The Daylight Saving Bill has been slain. A dark deed.

A Northampton lady who has been an auctioneer for eleven years must have a considerable nodding acquaintance.

When called over the coals, try and avoid the sack.

If your wife is getting the upper hand, be careful not to get under her thumb.

When burning with indignation, be careful you are not put out.

There is no joy compared to this
(Let him who will contrive to mock it),
The moment when you find some cash
In last year's flannel trousers' pocket.

Heading: "Suffragettes on the roof." There must have been a tile loose

CAN MEDICINES CURE CHEST COMPLAINTS?

OPINIONS OF LEADING SPECIALISTS ON ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS.

Where the Asthmatic Will Find Relief.

SCIENTIST'S BRILLIANT SUCCESS.

At this time of the year when, with prognostications of a cold and wet winter, we must be prepared to face a trying time, such a question as is raised here (and, we may add, completely answered) is a question of great importance.

There are, unfortunately, a great number of those who read JOHN BULL who are, consciously or unconsciously, suffering from some form of chest or lung troubles, and it is in their interest that a definite answer has been established to the question at the head of this specially-written article.

Can medicine really cure chest complaints? It is important that every asthmatic, every sufferer from bronchitis, should obtain an answer, for, apart from the private practices of those who watch the interests of the ailing, there are hosts of people who advertise nostrums, drugs, and curative specifics who definitely state drugs will cure.

Let us consider the matter. Diseases of the chest and lungs, such as asthma and bronchitis, are purely localised troubles. Although they may subsequently, and certainly do, weaken the whole body, for the time being they affect certain areas only. With asthma and bronchitis the lungs and respiratory organs become clogged, and portions thereof will eventually decay.

Now, to administer drugs to the system—that is to say, to excite the stomach with drugs of a more or less virulent nature—will hardly sweep away the clogging matter and rebuild the breathing organs in health and strength. Diseases such as those we are considering must be dealt with by natural treatment, combined with general treatment for the all-round improvement of the health of brain and body.

There is another point, too, to be considered. Drugs do not actually bring into the body new energy—rather their nature is to stimulate weakened energies to self-destruction. A ton of coal will only last a certain time. The more furious the fire is kept burning the quicker the coal will be used up. So with the energy of the body. If you do not rebuild the body, and give it new strength, if you do not increase its natural powers, then, by spurring it on to use up the energy that remains, you are using up vital forces. It must always be remembered that the human system is Nature's perfect work, and however near she may come to mechanical exactness, still in her (Nature's) own hands is the control of her wonderful creation.

DRUGS GIVE ONLY TEMPORARY RELIEF.

It is the opinion of all our leading specialists on chest and lung trouble that it is more important to assist Nature in a natural way to regain her strength than to force her at high pressure to eat up her own energies.

Mr Haynel, the brilliant head specialist of the Weidhaas Nature Institute, in a recent interview, supported this fact. "It is the greatest folly," he says, "to drug weak-chested people. Surely the only means of obtaining a cure is to strengthen weakened organs in a natural way?"

There is no greater authority than Mr. Haynel on all subjects connected with throat, chest, and lung diseases, and we are pleased to give his valuable advice here. Under his able guidance the great Weidhaas Nature Treatment is conducted in this country—a treatment that has secured a brilliant record of "cured cases" to prove its efficacy. Not only does he specialise in the treatment of asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, hæmorrhage, etc., at the Weidhaas Hygienic Institute, but he also directs a host of cures in his patients' own homes. The home treatment of asthma and bronchitis by the Weidhaas system is the great sensation of modern times, and to those who learn of it now for the first time it will come as a revelation of the great advance of modern curative science.

REALLY SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT.

The Weidhaas Home Treatment is practically a protest against unnecessary drugging of ailing persons, and under this marvellously successful treatment no drugs are used. Perfectly natural laws are followed; indeed, the greatest of all laws is adhered to—Nature has her own cures for her own ills. The weakest person or the person only slightly ailing may adopt the Weidhaas Home Treatment with every reliance in a cure. It is not a fad of the moment, and it is not a faith cure. It is a natural curative process, which, by building up the body in health and strength, eradicates the cause of disease.

The treatment is absolutely individual—that is to say, no common rule is adopted to treat all patients after scheme A or B, but it is directed to fit each individual case. It is varied at intervals according to the progress made under the treatment. Age, sex, climate, occupation—all are carefully studied and taken into due consideration.

This is a matter of fact, is one of Mr. Haynel's strong arguments against drug treatment, that no matter what drugs are applied, the system sooner or later gets used to them, and their former effect, to give even temporary relief, is lost.

Another vital point is the ease with which the treatment can be administered in the home of the patient without making it necessary, or even desirable, to radically alter one's usual routine, or interfering with one's daily occupation.

The establishment in this country of the Nature Treatment once and for all broke up the popular belief in drug-taking. Now that many thousands of cured sufferers are ready to give testimony to the fact that Home Nature Treatment upon plans originated by Professor Paul Weidhaas and carried out by Mr. Haynel is really effective in wiping out asthma and bronchitis assures us that those who desire to be rid of their ailment may be cured, and that with little trouble and little expense.

The Weidhaas Nature Treatment has been the salvation of many, but it was carried on in comparative obscurity until a short time ago, when the Institute, under the direction of its able, and now so well known, head specialist, Mr. Richard Haynel, celebrated its 25th Anniversary. This festivity caused a great and wide-spread sensation, and opened the eyes of many who had so far never heard of the new methods employed by the Institute for curing diseases of the Chest and Lungs. It will not be out of place to here quote one of the many Press notices of the event.

The *Sphere* says: —

> "The Director and staff of the Weidhaas Nature Treatment Establishment at Burgess Hill have been welcoming nearly 1,000 cured patients of the Institute. They came from every part of the kingdom, from the Colonies, and India. The chairman said he could conceive of no better means of proving the worth of any establishment organised for the treatment of human ailments than this new idea which Director Haynel had launched upon the waters of proof. When an Institute brought people from all parts of the country, and even from India, South Africa, South America, and other distant parts, as the Weidhaas Institute had done, there can be no doubt whatever about its worth."

This event, however, has been reported on so widely that, no doubt, it is still fresh in the minds of many readers.

SPECIAL ADVICE TO SUFFERERS.

Mr. Haynel has prepared a most interesting book, in which he deals at length with the causes of such troubles as asthma, bronchitis, hæmorrhage, shortness of breath, catarrh, wheezing, weak lungs, sore throats, coughs and colds, etc. He shows how such troubles arise, how, if they are neglected, they grow in severity, and, what is more important, how they may be cured. He also gives full details of the famous Weidhaas Nature Treatment, and explains how every sufferer may, in his or her own home, adopt this cure, that has meant new life, new health, and new strength to a host of ailing persons. A copy of this book may be obtained free of charge by any person who writes to the address given below, and who at the same time gives full particulars of his or her symptoms.

It is certain that there are many people suffering from chest and lung troubles, asthma, and bronchitis, who would be glad to learn all about so successful a treatment as the Weidhaas Nature Cure, and all such are advised to read Mr. Haynel's book. It is a complete popular scientific treatise that is bound to prove of practical value to all who read it.

Mr. Haynel gives one piece of important advice, and that is: "Don't neglect your trouble"; but it is not so much our duty to record the folly of neglect or enlarge upon the seriousness of chest and lung troubles. It is our duty, and a more pleasant one, to record the fact that from far and near, from the highest authorities, from sufferers themselves, is coming the news that the new home treatment is making wonderful strides towards wiping out such maladies as have been mentioned. We find that under the new treatment cases of long standing, chronic cases in which all hope of recovery had been lost, cases where the sufferer had been very old and very enfeebled, had been cured, and permanently cured.

For the benefit of those who suffer, and to give proof in figures of the success of the new home treatment, we quote the following passage from Mr. Haynel's book:

> "The Weidhaas Treatment has now been practised for nearly twenty-five years, during which time it has been instrumental in restoring health to thousands of men and women all over the world, something like 80,000 cases having been treated for one complaint or another . . . the knowledge and experience gained in the course of the treatment of so vast a number of cases have been applied to the completion and perfection of our curative method, and this extended practical experience enables us to adjust the treatment in its boundless combination with great nicety to the exact requirements of each case. It is remarkable testimony to its value that, of these thousands, a very large majority have been rejected as incurable by the finest practitioners and specialists in the world of medicine."

A REMARKABLE OFFER TO ALL.

This splendid offer of free copies of Mr. Haynel's book comes opportunely, for the season is now upon us when the symptoms of the asthmatic and the sufferer from bronchitis develop in their worst forms. The dreaded foggy months, the cold, bad days, and the damp nights and mornings are not conducive to good health to any person, but to a certain class they appear as a veritable nightmare. These months are now close upon us. Let the ailing take this advice: Do not wait until your symptoms develop past control, but take steps now that will lead you to a cure.

Unfortunately in the summer months the asthmatic and the sufferer from bronchitis are inclined to neglect their troubles, and only the return of cold, foggy, damp days and nights brings home to them the seriousness of their malady.

The hacking, coughing, and wheezing now commence, and long, painful, and sleepless nights in which the poor sufferer has to fight for every breath he draws, add their effect, gradually reducing the vital energy, until at last the patient is glad to do almost anything to obtain relief.

If you have a bad cough, catarrh, or suffer from asthma, bronchitis, wheezing, huskiness, sore throat, shortness of breath, or any other throat or lung trouble, write to-day for a copy of Mr. Haynel's book, entitled "Dum Spiro Spero" ("Whilst I breathe I hope").

All applications should be addressed the Head Specialist, the Weidhaas Hygienic Institute, 36M, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc., which will be duly acknowledged.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write names and addresses upon the back of their work. The Editor can accept no responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work when stamped, addressed envelopes are sent for the purpose.* ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL.

The EDITOR *can express no opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

A. J. G. (East Sheen) wants us to try a week-end at Southend, and says: "It's wonderful how few cerebral cobwebs survive a brisk walk to the end of the elongated monstrosity and back." But we have no cerebral cobwebs. Shall we send Jim Crow to explore?

C. B. (Cambridge).—Always glad to see poems, but why not choose a topic more original than the Empire? Say, the Alhambra.

"ESPANA" (Cardiff) wants us to go on "rubbing in" our views about the hydrocephalous Alfonso. But it is now the turn of the Spaniards.

R. B. (Stanley) assures us that a resolution of sympathy and praise towards the management of the colliery was passed by "a few irresponsible parties and religious toadies." So perhaps Keir-Hardie was not so very wrong after all.

R. W. (Torquay) says a Business Government would solve all the difficulties which beset the country.

J. B. (Teheran, Persia) says he has to pay British taxes, but during the recent disturbances, British subjects were not protected. He also informs us that the British Minister there does not trouble much about his compatriots.

V. W. (Richmond) says tram-horses are overworked there.

A. L. (Burscough) cycled to Wigan on Sunday and could not obtain even a cup of tea. He wants to know if this was due to Sabbatarianism or the laziness of the inhabitants.

H. M. (Birkenhead) inquires about the International Correspondence Schools (Kingsway). We recently enquired into their methods and were quite satisfied of their *bona fides*.

M. C. B. (Elgin Avenue) is compiling a "Book of Judas" and seeking materials in the *Daily Telegraph*. He is too "furious" against Jews to write us more than eight pages about them.

J. E. S. (Bradford) asks if W. H. Veno of Manchester is a quack.

"CYRUS" (Brook Green) obtained, as he says, an unsatisfactory automatic piano from Elman Bros., of Islington, and asks if other readers have had experience of the firm.

G. P. (Ashford).—We agree that it would be a good idea for scientific investigators to begin on their own vile bodies. If it can be proved that inoculators have broken the law and used small-pox lymph, by all means let them be prosecuted.

M. V. (S. Kensington) inquires about the Rothwell Knitting Co. (255, Regent's Road, Salford, Manchester).

"CORRESPONDENT" (Perthshire) inquires about the International Agency Co. (12, Red Lion Court, E.C.), which appoints correspondents and gives them press-cards on payment of a registration fee of 5s.

P. R. (Ealing) suggests taxing insurance agents and exempting auctioneers, architects, solicitors, etc. Why solicitors, of all people? And what is P. R.'s profesion, by the way?

J. T. S., JUN. (S. Shields), says the Tonbridge District Council objects to Sunday gardening. We have already dealt with the matter. J. T. S. must join the League.

G. R. (Birmingham) informs C. R. C. T. (Bedford) that the Horspool Vocal Academy accomplishes all it claims to do. He derived benefit from it.

T. J. M.—Our Editor appreciates your flattering verses, but is too modest to publish them.

EDITOR (*Bournemouth Graphic*).—We raise our elbow to you.

S. W. B. (Kennington).—We do not recommend any betting systems.

M. F. (Bristol).—Consciences, like all other faculties, yields to training.

J. R. H. (London).—We have no interest, direct or indirect, in the Liquor Trade, and are quite alive to the evil of intemperance. That is why we oppose legislation which, whilst doing injustice to a legitimate trade, increases instead of diminishes drunkenness. You should read up the subject.

IMMEDIATE ANNUITIES

with Return of Purchase Money.

For Particulars write

Gresham Life Assurance Society, Ltd.,

ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, LONDON, E.C.

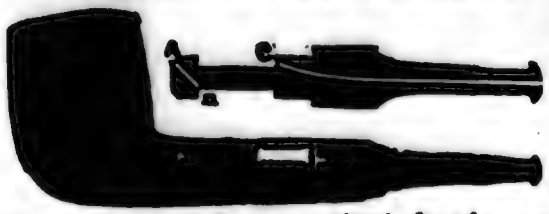
Assets Exceed £10,000,000. JAMES H. SCOTT, General Manager and Secretary.

CAPS-EM

PERFECT PATENT

..A..

Revelation to Pipe Smokers.



Have you not tried many patent pipes in your time and found them ALL unsatisfactory? TRY the MOST PERFECT pipe yet invented and procure one, to your lasting benefit.

THE most fascinating pipe for Smokers. Cleaned in two seconds. No soiling the hands. The nicotine has to pass through stem from A to B, the smoke is drawn up through C, therefore ensuring a perfectly cool and pure smoke. Made in six shapes —bent and straight!

2/-, 2/6, 5/6 & 7/6 each through all high-class Tobacconists, or samples sent post free upon receipt of remittance from the —

CAPS-EM PERFECT PATENT PIPE Co Ld

165 LADBROKE GROVE NORTH KENSINGTON W

THE BOOK THAT YOU WANT.

A FREE BOOK on Stock Exchange Matters

Issued to readers of "John Bull" by the

STOCK EXCHANGE AND BANKING CO., LTD.

STOCKBROKERS AND DEALERS.

ANNUAL TURNOVER of our Business TWO MILLION STERLING.

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Write at once for FREE Book, called "PRUDENCE," to The Managing Director, Stock Exchange and Banking Co., Ltd. (Room M), 7 and 8 Great Winchester Street, E.C.

The time to buy is on days of reaction, as this is the condition precedent to a rise in prices. Very large amounts were paid out in connection with the Canadian Trusts. Participants in our future Trust operations are invited to inspect list of pay ments.

TRUST IN STEELS COMMON

The greatest business boom ever recorded has set in in the United States; the boom is growing with an unsurpassed rapidity; indications of tremendous crops in the West.

You cannot be pushed out of the market in six months even if a panic should occur. Temporary decline of the market does not affect your transaction in the least.

(For 3 Months, £2 for every $1,000)

Your whole liability is limited to £2 (remitted) for every $1,000.

The profit in three months is estimated at £60 for every £2 remitted, which should mean that one will have returned £60 plus £2, equal to £62.

Whether or not you have ever dealt in American Railroads, we invite you to send us at once the application form attached below and learn from your own experience whether our advices and methods are valuable for the general public.

Nothing else is expected of you than to recommend us to the circle of your acquaintances after the success has been completely proven, that means not before you have received from us £60 on your £2 remitted.

THE SUBSCRIPTION WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY, THE 16th OF SEPTEMBER.

Amount Required £2
Estimated Profit £60

GERSON HAMSON & CO., LIMITED, Norfolk House, Laurence Pountney Hill, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: ESPONJAS, LONDON.

OUR CAMPAIGN FOR 1909.

INTERVIEW WITH A WELL-KNOWN AMERICAN MAGNATE.

We dare say we are experts in Yankees (American Railways) and that we know everything about them that can be known. We dare say that we understand the entire Wall Street System better than any one of our competitors, and very often have an occasion to feel that in 3 months we could bring you further than you can get yourself in 3 years.

Nowadays almost everybody has a friend who is a dealer or broker in Stocks and Shares, so we cannot expect that you should give us the preference, unless we actually prove to you that we are often sooner and better informed than other firms. In the end the public will transact their business where the best profits are to be gained and the best conditions to be obtained.

We shall prove to you that our advices are valuable.

A Trust in Steels Common: It is our intention to possess in 1909 the largest amount of clients that ever a stock broker or dealer could boast of, and we will realise this fact through our Trust in Steels Common. We will force you to a certain degree, at least once, to give us an order and to form your own opinion about our method of dealing and the capacities of our correspondents.

J. PIERPONT MORGAN.

"Don't be a Bear on America," J. Pierpont Morgan said. "That man who is, goes broke."

Whether or not you have ever dealt in American Railroads, we proclaim this fact: Send us at once the application form attached below and learn from your own experience whether our advices and methods are valuable.

OUR PROPOSITION.

A Trust in Steels Common (For every Thousand Dollars you must send £2—and the estimated profit is £60—in 3 months).

Condition 1st. All Steels Common shares are opened at the London closing price of Thursday, the 16th of Sept., which quotations are controlled by almost every English paper (Globe, Daily Telegraph, Financial News, Financial Times, &c., &c.). Suppose the closing price in London should be 79½—80 then is the buying price 80 nett, which means naturally without you paying any further commission or other expenses. If you sell or buy according to tape prices and yet have to pay commission you are paying too much. A Daily Newspaper, from which you are able to ascertain these prices exactly, is sent you free of charge with every order.

2nd. All transactions will be closed the same date at London closing price, i.e., three months after the Trust opens, i.e., Thursday, 16th December, 1909, and all profits, without any limit, will be returned with the two pounds of your remittance.

3rd. If on Thursday, 16th December, 1909, there would have been no profit made, the transaction will be kept open for the next 3 months, i.e., Wednesday 16th March, 1910, without any further margin. We hope it is now quite clear to you that the worst that can happen, is that the closing quotation in London on 16th March, 1910, is 1 per cent. or more under the quotation of 16th Sept., 1909, and then, and only then, would your loss be £2, and under no circumstances more than the two pounds remitted.

4th. Every buyer receives a stamped contract informing the purchaser that if necessary we keep the account open for 6 months, and that the entire responsibility of the buyer is limited to the £2 remitted.

OUR CORRESPONDENT PREDICTS:

A boom in Yankees in 1909, and quotations for the different shares never surpassed. Please keep in mind that the same correspondent, after an interview with one of the best-known American financiers, has sent to our clients telegrams on several occasions from which the following is an example: "Advise immediate purchase Chesapeake Common. Do not delay, but follow our advice at once and you will continue to deal with us. Margin returned with profit; inside information in hand." Chesapeake were at that time 58½ and are now 84, so those who have followed our advice will not have forgotten this.

We are convinced that through our Trust in Steels Common we will enlist and retain you as one of our clients.

On Thursday, 16th Sept., the Subscription will be closed. If you wish to become a participant in the Trust please send by return post the attached application form, with your name and address and the amount of Two Pounds to:—

GERSON HAMSON & CO., Limited, Norfolk House, Laurence Pountney Hill, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Steel shares are conspicuously strong, and it must be remembered that J. P. Morgan never admitted failure in anything. Its very rapidly growing earnings and the possession of almost unlimited supplies of raw material (almost all paid for) are factors for a considerable advance in the stock. Many authorities in positions to know what they are talking about, say that the dividends will certainly be increased considerably in October again, and Steel's Common under 125 are worth buying.

CHAT ON 'CHANGE.

This book, compiled by a leading financial expert, will be sent gratis and post free to every one subscribing in our Trust Operation.

It is a complete handbook and guide for the use of those who wish to study the various methods of Stock Exchange operations.

A careful perusal of these pages will enable the reader to thoroughly grasp the different methods in which to open an account.

Being written in plain and easy language, it can be readily understood by everybody.

THIS FORM MAY BE USED. J.B.

I buy thousand dollars United States Steels Common Shares on the London closing price of Thursday, the 16th of Sept., and further on the conditions as mentioned in your advertisement, for which I enclose £2, with the understanding that my entire risk is limited to this amount.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

If you will invest a larger amount, please make the form out accordingly. For instance: If you wish to make out the form for $5,000 you must remit £10. You can also REMIT BY POSTAL ORDER OR CHEQUE.

More of these forms can be obtained by application to our offices or by writing.

J. G. (Saxmundham) cannot understand our objection to stag-hurting. Neither can we.

"Bullite" (Kingsland) writes calling our attention to the advertisements and methods of "Dr." Balfour, U.S., Dispensary, 174, Kingsland Road, London, N. We should like to know something more about this "doctor"—such as whether he has ever been prosecuted and fined for signing certificates as a qualified medical man. Is it true that he is identical with Mr. J. Dawes-White, the Chairman of the Shoreditch Board of Guardians, to whom we recently addressed an Open Letter upon his giving his casting vote electing his own son to the post of assistant relieving officer?

N. C. B. (London, E.C.) and others.—As you will see, we have removed, the tipsters' advertisements from our columns.

The Electrophot Co., of Welsbach House, Gray's Inn Road, complain of our reply to P. H. E. (Wellingborough) in our last issue, and inform us that prior to advertising their business they submitted all their methods to the Editor of *Truth*, who was quite satisfied with his investigation.

V. R. C. (High Wycombe), F. S. (Brixton), J. G. M. (Grimsby), W. J. (Wolverhampton), and others, write us that they sent 5s. to the tipster, Horace White, but were very dissatisfied with his selections—in some cases not getting a single winner. They have now received postcards threatening legal proceedings for the recovery of the further £1. We think they need be under no apprehension. As White must know, the law would not take cognisance of such a transaction—beyond, perhaps, committing him to prison for contempt of Court in having the impudence to appeal to it in respect of such a claim. It is significant that a letter we addressed to him asking for an explanation was returned marked "Not known."

J. T. (Willenhall) says he is surprised to hear what we say regarding White. He wishes he had known about the "Guide" years ago, as for the last three months it has not had a losing week. He must have had a special edition of it all to himself.

N. C. B. (London) and T. B. (Neath) complain that Crosbie, of Broad Street House, owes them £12 13s. 10d. and £3 17s. respectively, from winning weeks, but repeated applications have failed to procure payment. We have, as they will see, removed the advertisement.

A. E. C. (Hounslow), and W. T. (Halifax)—We do not advise you to have dealings with the individual named—in fact, we have also removed his advertisement.

G. C. (Greenwich Road) asks about the "Overseas Compendium" (Cannon Street, Manchester, and Egerton Road, Blackpool).

M. B. H. (Norwich) writes unfavourably about a certain Sidney King, formerly a brush-maker of Dalston, but does not know if it is the man "Zebra" inquired about. Neither do we.

"Literary" (Walthamstow).—We know nothing of the Literary Exchange (60, Haymarket), but we should not be inclined to send 6s. 6d. in advance on the chance of their placing your short article.

G. E. B. (Balham) appeals for our assistance in obtaining from the L.C.C. the erection of a bandstand on Tooting Bec Common—a lovely public open space—which is at present utterly neglected in this respect, whilst many less important commons have their bands. What is the matter with Tooting that it should be treated in this way?

W. J. R. (Hanwell) wishes to know how to obtain a situation as Gymnastic Instructor. One method would be to advertise, and another to write to, or call upon, the various Gymnastic Colleges and Institutions in the country.

P. H. (Manchester).—Yes, we think you are right in your opinion that Lord Cromer did "vote against Old Age Pensions" just about the time that he had received a special grant of £50,000 from the Imperial Government—in addition to his pension.

J. M. (Kirkcudbright) scolds us for taking to task the Barcelona Priests, who disguised themselves as peasants in order to escape the fury of the mob. He thinks that even priests are entitled to benefit of the first law of Nature—self-protection. So they are only human, after all!

T. A. M. (Finsbury).—You are quite wrong in assuming that we have any sort of interest in, or connection with, any other publication, or any advertising financial institution.

J. W. (Balham) thought when we were first published we were "very good" but now finds us "par excellence," and can honestly say that "he would not miss a single copy for 5s." Perhaps now and then he will take sixty copies and circulate them amongst his friends.

G. S. (Manchester) wishes to know what a "One-wheel Perpetual Motion Machine" is worth. The answer is "All the money in the world." The only perpetual motions we know of are those for closing the debate on the Budget Bill.

R. B. C.—We certainly think public bodies ought to return the testimonials of applicants for public posts.

A gentleman with an Irish signature sends us the following:—

"Chorous
"then Sing Long Live there majesty
and Happy may the bee
to live in Peace with every Race
and enjoy the world with me."

All right, we will.

B. J. S. (Walthamstow) suggests that with reference to our Business Government competition, we should award a special prize for the Cabinet which we ourselves think the best—quite independently of the general census of opinion. We are afraid we cannot alter the scheme—even if some of our readers do allocate the whole of the offices to the staff of John Bull.

A. T. (London).—The proposals to raise the status and increase the salaries of the President of the Board of Trade and Local Government Board do not apply to the present holders of these offices.

J. V. H. (Chichester) tells us that a party of four recently entered the Beach Hotel, Bognor, but the proprietor refused to serve one with lunch on the ground that he was in uniform—being a Royal Marine Artilleryman. The proprietor, we understand, is a prominent member of the Town Council.

"Anti-Faddist" (Highbury), whilst taking a walk the other evening, was disgusted to see numbers of little children lying on the pavement, some of them fast asleep, "whilst their mothers were having a glass of beer inside. One little boy was nursing his leg and crying bitterly, as some passer-by had accidentally kicked him." "Anti-Faddist" thinks that this sort of thing must have been conceived in Bedlam.

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

FARROW'S BANK,
LTD.,
The People's Bank.
Head Office
1, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

Chairman and Managing Director,
Mr. THOMAS FARROW.

STOCKS AND SHARES DEPARTMENT.

The Bank purchases and sells for its customers through leading members of the Stock Exchange Stocks and Shares of every description, quoted or unquoted, and

ASSISTS CUSTOMERS
to buy such Stocks and Shares by temporary advances.

FULL PARTICULARS
on Application to the Manager,
STOCKS AND SHARES DEPARTMENT.

Branches and Agencies throughout the Country.

DO YOU HEAR WELL?

The Stolz Electrophone—A New Electrical, Scientific, and Practical Invention for those who are Deaf or Partially Deaf—may now be tested free at the London Offices of the Stolz Electrophone Co., Ltd., 85-88, Fleet Street, London, E.C. The Electrophone is a tiny electric telephone that fits on the ear. It magnifies the sound waves. It overcomes buzzing and roaring ear noises. It improves the natural hearing. Fifteen days' trial is allowed.

Electrophone in use—less conspicuous than eye-glasses

Mrs. E. Savile, 12, Otley Road, Headingley, Leeds, writes:—

"I have now used the Electrophone ten weeks. It improves every day, and I really think that in a very short time I shall only need to use it at church or theatres, as I can hear ordinary conversation fairly well without it already. It has improved my hearing wonderfully, and I should not like to be without it. I should like all deaf persons to try one, and can thoroughly recommend it; or shall be pleased to let anyone try mine."

Mr. Keall Parkhouse (Associate Royal College of Organists), 42, Lime Grove, Bideford, writes:—

"The Stolz Electrophone is of inestimable value to me. I am a professional musician, and after using the Phone for three months I would not be without it for anything. Sounds are heard at the correct pitch, and the Electrophone is so convenient that placing it at EITHER ear and playing comfortably for hours without a trace of irritation to the ear I can now hear my violin better than for years past. My friends are delighted with the effect the Electrophone has had on my health and spirits." Particulars on application.

STOLZ ELECTROPHONE COMPANY
(London), Ltd., Dept. J B. 87-88, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

HOLIDAYS.

When packing up, don't forget to equip yourself fully for cleaning the teeth—by including your tooth-brush and a tin of

Calvert's Tooth Powder

Sold at all Chemists. In Tins, 6d., 1/-, 1/6 and 2/-.
New Glass Jar with Distributing Stopper, 1/- nett.
Sample Free if you enclose a penny stamp for postage to
F. C. CALVERT & Co. (Department J. B.), Manchester.

LIPTONS

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

TO H.M. THE KING.

TO H.M. THE KING & QUEEN OF ITALY.

TO H.M. THE KING OF SPAIN.

TO H.I.M. THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

Growers of the Finest Tea the World can Produce.

NO MIDDLEMEN'S PROFITS.

NO QUALITY EQUAL TO LIPTONS.

Direct from the Tea Gardens to the Teapot.

Sole Proprietors of many of the most famous Tea, Coffee and Cocoa Estates in Ceylon, covering thousands of acres.

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BRANCHES & AGENCIES EVERYWHERE.

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THE

LARGEST SALE IN THE WORLD

GAMAGES

FOR EVERYTHING FOR FOOTBALL.

EVER THE WORLD'S LOWEST PRICES.

ENDLESS VARIETY. MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY.

FOOTBALLS.

The Gamage
Best quality Cowhide, hand sewn, fitted superior red rubber bladder, 7/6, post, 6d. Better value impossible. **7/6**

The Army
Specially recommended for use at barracks and schools; eight sections, best English Cowhide. Price complete 9/6 postage 6d. Unequalled for hard wear. **9/6**

The Association.
Eight sections each stretched and hammered before being made up; capless, waterproof, hand sewn, perfect shape, guaranteed. Including extra strong Referee bladder, 10/6. Post free **10/6**

BOOTS.

The Universal
Stout Russet Leather, solid hide blocked toes, waterproof soles. Boys', 4/11. Superior Scotch Chrome or Brown Hide, 7/11, post 6d. **5/11**

The Gamblick
Remarkably easy and pliable: support to ankles and firm grip of ground ensuring great power when kicking. Scotch Chrome, Waterproof soles, fine waists, solid hide toes, bars or studs. Boys' 7/6, post 6d. **8/6**

The Referee.
Most perfect Football Boot made. Stout Bresst Calf, leather lined, solid hide blocked toes, waterproof soles, with or without ankle pads, bars or studs. Boys' 7/11; Scotch Chrome, 8/11. New Golf Chrome, beautifully soft, 12/6, postage, 6d. **8/11**

JERSEYS, &c.

The Popular Laced Front Jersey.
As now worn by all the leading Clubs. Plain coloured body, with self or contrasted ribbed neck and laced fronts, 2/11, or 33/- doz. Striped ditto, 2/9 and 3/6 each. **2/11**

Twill Football Shirts.
Newest style, untearable, fast colours, 3-inch stripes, halves or quarters, 3/6 each; 39/- doz. Used by most of the League teams, and by the teams in the Final Cup Tie. **3/6**

Knickers.
Strong Navy Serge, go to 42-inch waist, 1/4, 1/10, 2/11, 3/11, and 5/11 pair. Black Serge, 2/11 and 3/11 **1/4**

(See List for other styles and prices.)

SPORTS AND GAMES CATALOGUE POST FREE.

A. W. GAMAGE, LTD., Holborn, London, E.C. **BENETFINK, LTD., Cheapside, London, E.C.**

ALEXINE.

MANY PEOPLE ARE FORCED TO EAT TOO MUCH in order to eat enough.

What you eat—how much you eat—or even how much you digest—is not the whole question.

By stimulating your appetite and aiding your digestion you may be only overloading your system with waste products.

ALEXINE will enable you to "get all the good out of your food." It is neither a food nor a medicine, but an aid to Nature.

The active principle of ALEXINE is free phosphoric acid, which acts upon the otherwise insoluble phosphates in your food and in your system, and enables your brain, your nerves and your muscle to take them up and make use of them.

Obtainable through all Chemists at 2/9 and 4/6 per bottle; or from sole British Agents at same prices, post free.

THOS. CHRISTY & CO.,

4, 10, 12, Old Swan Lane, London, E.C.

DON'T WEAR A TRUSS

STUART'S PLASTER-PADS

are different from the painful truss, and being self-adhesive they hold the rupture in place without straps, buckles or springs—cannot slip, so cannot chafe or compress against the pelvic bone. The pads contain a wonderful medicine which is kept constantly in contact, thereby curing the most obstinate cases. Thousands have successfully treated themselves without hindrance from work and in the privacy of the home. Soft as velvet—easy to apply—inexpensive. Write to-day and "Trial Treatment," with interesting book, will be sent free.—Address:—

STUART PLASTER-PAD CO., Dept. P., 66-67, Shoe Lane, E.C.

What Is Your Number?

See page iii of cover

RACING NOTES.

By W. LOTINGA.
("*Larry Lynx*" *of* THE PEOPLE, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* THE GLOBE.)

A Fault of the "Crouch."

There are no prettier racing colours than those which embrace the various "waistcoats," but such are practically useless now as a means of identification with the American style of jockeyship in vogue, for through the rider crouching it is absolutely *impossible* to notice any such distinctive embellishment as waistcoat, collar or cuffs.

Would be Unrecognised as a Training Stable.

Tabor's establishment, Down's Lodge, Epsom, is situated just the other side of the road from the back entrance of the grand stands, right adjacent to the Derby Arms Hotel. It is a curious, old-fashioned little place—with the prettiest of lawns in front—and hidden from view by a high hedge. The stables are actually underneath the rooms of the residence.

A True Comparison.

It is a racing adage that as soon as an owner or trainer "lets go" his horse's head, when the jockey is in the saddle, *everything* is out of his hands—meaning that the jockey is the master, and what he does or does not do may upset months of care and the most careful plans. But there is always recourse to a tribunal in the event of dissatisfaction. It is even worse as regards litigants, who, together with their solicitor (who represents the trainer), are *absolutely*, and without remedy, in the control of counsel.

An Unexplained Peculiarity.

The Kempton round course is certainly one of the easiest, and this is doubtless why top-weights invariably do so well upon it. I have heard some of our leading jockeys declare that a mile-and-a-half at Kempton is not so severe as a mile elsewhere, for the horses are practically always galloping on the turn. Yet others declare that it is a "funny" course to ride over, as in a big field of horses, unless you lie right up with the leading three or four, you are certain to get "messed about," and probably shut out altogether at the last bend. In contrast, if you go along with the lead, the probability is that you ride your horse down, for, having once got in front on the rails' berth, you have to keep "taking on" whatever comes to you.

Our Sporting Clubs.

Although it is becoming the fashion to split up commissions all over the country, especially as regards s.p. coups, the main quota of betting business is assuredly that done in the few metropolitan clubs—the Victoria, Albert, Beaufort, and National—for it is in that order that the usual Monday settling round is taken. True, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and other large centres have their similar sporting headquarters, where a good deal of business is done, but the volume of betting nowadays is transacted in the Beaufort. The Soho Square compact little house is unquestionably "the" club for business nowadays, nothing like as much being done as of old at the Albert, while the Victori' is really only utilised occasionally, after settling on Monday afternoons, but it is still made the almost regulation rendezvous for "calling over the card" upon pending big races.

Medley.

A sportive way of describing any hot starting price job is to say that it was "Colman Street."

We are truly getting towards the ladies' dress descriptions as regards racing colours, the latest being dark blue, white "yoke," sleeves and cap.

It is the "wrong 'uns" among the s.p. firms who get best part of the money and bring discredit upon what should be an honourable sporting vocation.

Prophetic.

We must only have a single bet to-day (Thursday), but a substantial one, upon

KING'S CHAMPION,

if the little horse contests the Alexandra Plate, for he shirked the recent Ebor Handicap in wait for something, and he is assured of a success in a stake such as this before the end of the year. In Friday's Prince of Wales Nursery, DALNACRAG and ENVY have big chances, for they have been tried to stay the course, and the companions, ELECTRA and VERNEY, will win their respective races.

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—SONNET CXI.

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"John Bull," Sept. 11, 1909

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The following claims have been received for the issues of July 10th, 24th, and 31st:—

A. E. BARNETT, 23, Marmaduke Street, Victoria Park, Totterdown, Bristol. (No. 227607—July 10th, 1909.)

K. HEATHER, 350, Katherine Road, Forest Gate, Essex. (No. 273521—July 24th, 1909.)

THOMAS LYON, 54, Townhead Street, Hamilton, N.B. (No. 40613—July 24th, 1909.)

W. BUDD, The Orange Tree, Stonebridge Park, Willesden, N.W. (No. 272529—July 24th, 1909.)

CHARLES MITCHELL, 11, Wheatfield Place, Edinburgh. (No. 43737—July 24th, 1909.

H. J. VALLANCE, 58, Gatliff Buildings, Commercial Road, Pimlico, S.W. (No. 67294—July 24th, 1909.)

JOHN H. DAVIES, 93, Hampden Road, Hornsey, N. (No. 27683—July 31, 1909.)

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of August 7th:—

265; 4689; 12115; 18918; 23571; 28999; 33112; 34000; 34255; 38989; 42014; 47477; 60987; 66127; 67924; 69114; 73278; 79982; 99101; 106102; 114245; 120465; 131992; 139217; 144067; 149143; 156070; 159884; 172164; 179873; 184613; 187652; 197971; 200100; 207147; 218894; 223677; 233156; 248116; 254797; 256568; 259996; 264111; 266664; 267109; 275146; 279567; 285035; 291995; 305688.

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED OCTOBER 16th (PUBLISHED OCTOBER 14th).

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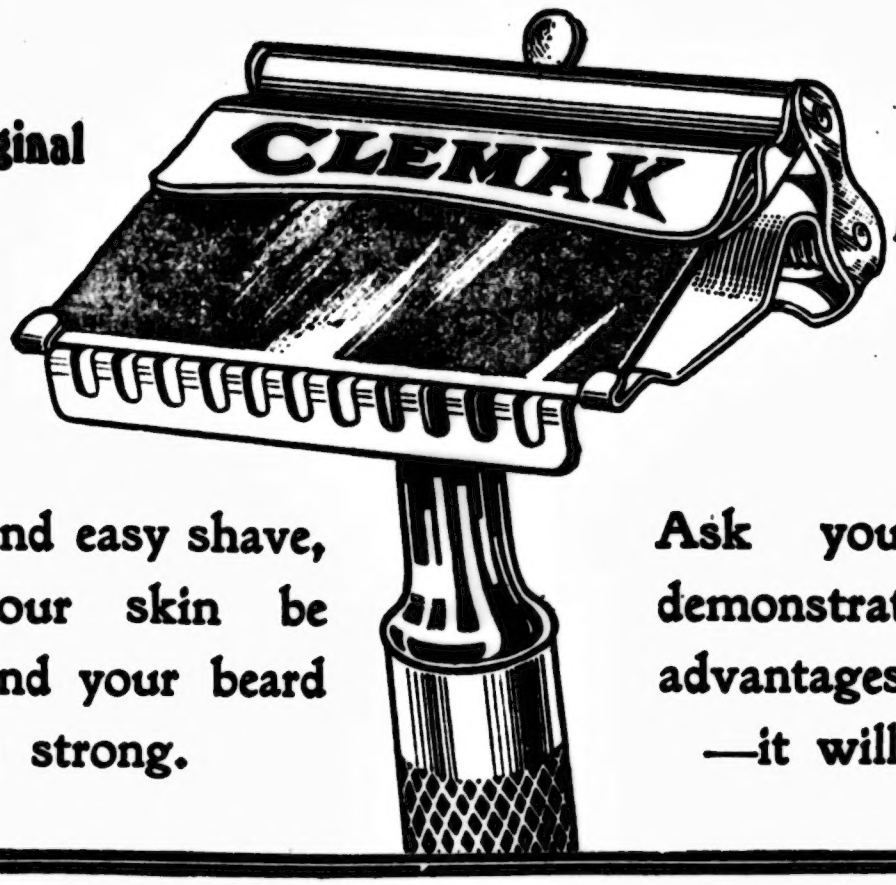

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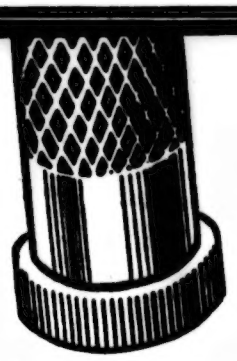

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